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General Assembly

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Sixty-first session
Agenda item 150
International Year of Reconciliation, 2009

Argentina, Brazil, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua: draft resolution

International Year of Reconciliation, 2009

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the Charter of the United Nations, including the purposes and principles contained therein, and in particular those of saving succeeding generations from the scourge of war, bringing about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace, and practising tolerance and living together in peace with one another as good neighbours, thus developing friendly relations among nations and promoting international cooperation to resolve international economic, social, cultural and humanitarian issues,

Recognizing that reconciliation processes are particularly necessary and urgent in countries and regions of the world which have suffered or are suffering situations of conflict that have affected and divided societies in their various internal, national and international facets,

Recognizing also that many of the activities of the United Nations system in general and the international community as a whole to support peacekeeping and peacebuilding, conflict prevention, disarmament, sustainable development, the promotion and protection of human rights and dignity, democracy, the rule of law and governance, inter alia, lead to the initiation and development of reconciliation processes,

Aware that dialogue among opponents from positions of respect and tolerance is an essential element of peace and reconciliation,

Aware also that truth and justice are indispensable elements for the attainment of reconciliation and lasting peace,

Bearing in mind the role of the media in reporting on reconciliation processes,

06-61379 (E) 141106

Convinced that the declaration of an International Year of Reconciliation at the end of the first decade of the new Millennium will provide the international community with the opportunity to pursue, with the active involvement of all stakeholders, efforts to develop reconciliation processes, which are necessary to and a condition for the establishment of firm and lasting peace,

1. *Expresses* its steadfast determination to pursue reconciliation processes in those societies that are affected and/or divided by conflicts;

2. *Decides* to proclaim 2009 the International Year of Reconciliation;

3. *Invites* concerned Governments and international and non-governmental organizations to support reconciliation processes among affected and/or divided societies and to plan and implement adequate cultural, educational and social programmes to promote the concept of reconciliation, including holding conferences and seminars and disseminating information about the issue.

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International Year of Reconciliation, 2009

Argentina, Brazil, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua: draft resolution

International Year of Reconciliation, 2009

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Chile, Costa Rica, Mauritius, Panama, Philippines and **Rwanda**

06-62301 (E) 211106

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General Assembly

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Sixty-first session
Agenda item 62 (a)
New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support

South Africa:* draft resolution

New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/2 of 16 September 2002 on the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development,

Recalling also its resolution 57/7 of 4 November 2002 on the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development and resolutions 58/233 of 23 December 2003, 59/254 of 23 December 2004 and 60/222 of 23 December 2005 entitled "New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support",

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[1] including the recognition of the need to meet the special needs of Africa,

Bearing in mind that African countries have primary responsibility for their own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, and also the need for their development efforts to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, and in this regard recalling the support given by the International Conference on Financing for Development to the New Partnership,[2]

Stressing the need to implement various commitments by the international community regarding the economic and social development of Africa,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See resolution 60/1.

[2] See *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

06-61524 (E) 151106

1. *Welcomes* the fourth consolidated report of the Secretary-General on the subject of the present resolution;[3]

2. *Reaffirms its full support* for the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[4]

3. *Recognizes* the progress made in the implementation of the New Partnership as well as regional and international support for the New Partnership, while acknowledging that much needs to be done in its implementation;

I

Actions by African countries and organizations

4. *Welcomes* the progress made by the African countries in fulfilling their commitments in the implementation of the New Partnership to deepen democracy, human rights, good governance and sound economic management, and encourages African countries, with the participation of stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to intensify their efforts in this regard by developing and strengthening institutions for governance, creating an environment conducive to attracting foreign direct investment for the development of the region;

5. *Also welcomes* the good progress that has been achieved in implementing the African Peer Review Mechanism, in particular the completion of the peer review process in some countries, and in this regard urges African States that have not done so to consider joining the Mechanism;

6. *Further welcomes* the efforts by African countries to achieve food self-sufficiency through adoption of common strategies at the NEPAD Fish for All Summit, held in Abuja from 22 to 25 August 2005, and the Africa Fertilizer Summit, endorsed by the African Union on 29 August 2005 and held from 9 to 13 June 2006, and the NEPAD Food Security Summit, to be held in Abuja from 4 to 7 December 2006;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance for African countries to continue to coordinate, on the basis of national strategies and priorities, all types of external assistance, in order to integrate effectively such assistance into their development processes;

8. *Recognizes* the important role that African regional economic communities can play in the implementation of the New Partnership, and in this regard encourages African countries and the international community to give regional economic communities the necessary support to strengthen their capacity;

9. *Encourages* the establishment of national institutional mechanisms for further domestication and integration of the priorities and objectives of the New Partnership in national policies and programmes;

II

Response of the international community

10. *Welcomes* the efforts by development partners to strengthen cooperation with the New Partnership;

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[3] A/61/212.

[4] A/57/304, annex.

11. *Acknowledges* the various important initiatives of Africa's development partners in recent years, including those of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Group of Eight Africa Joint Action Plan, the European Union, the Tokyo International Conference on African Development, the New Asia-Africa Strategic Partnership, the Forum of China-Africa Cooperation, and the Africa Partnership Forum, and emphasizes in this regard the importance of coordination in such initiatives on Africa;

12. *Recognizes* the important role that South-South cooperation can play in supporting Africa's development efforts, including implementation of the New Partnership, and in this regard welcomes the convening of the Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation on 4 and 5 November 2006 and the Africa-Latin America Summit, to be held in Abuja in December 2006;

13. *Welcomes* the ongoing initiatives on the follow-up to the Second Asia-Africa Summit held in Jakarta on 22 and 23 April 2005 aimed at promoting greater partnership and cooperation between Africa and other regions;

14. *Urges* continuous support of measures to address the challenges of poverty eradication and sustainable development in Africa including, as appropriate, debt relief, improved market access, support for the private sector and entrepreneurship, enhanced official development assistance and increased flows of foreign direct investment, and transfer of technology;

15. *Reiterates* the need for all countries and relevant multilateral institutions to continue efforts to enhance coherence in their trade policies towards African countries, and acknowledges the importance of efforts to fully integrate African countries into the international trading system through initiatives such as building Africa's capacity to compete and the provision of assistance to address the adjustment challenges of trade liberalization;

16. *Calls for* a comprehensive and sustainable solution to the external debt problems of African countries, including cancellation or restructuring for heavily indebted African countries not part of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative that have unsustainable debt burdens and emphasizes the importance of debt sustainability;

17. *Takes note* of the recent pledges to increase official development assistance to Africa and urges donors to continue to improve the quality of aid in accordance with the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness: Ownership, Harmonization, Alignment, Results and Mutual Accountability, adopted at the High-level Forum on the question of "Joint Progress towards Enhanced Aid Effectiveness: Harmonization, Alignment, Results", held in Paris from 28 February to 2 March 2005, and to ensure that the increase in official development assistance translates into the actual flow of financial resources to developing countries;

18. *Recognizes* the need for national Governments and the international community to make continued efforts to increase the flow of new and additional resources for financing for development from all sources, public and private, domestic and foreign, to support the development of African countries;

19. *Welcomes* the efforts by development partners to align their financial and technical support to Africa more closely to the priorities of the New Partnership, as

reflected in national poverty reduction strategies or in similar strategies, and encourages development partners to increase their efforts in this regard;

20. *Calls upon* developed countries to encourage and facilitate investment by their private sectors in Africa, to help African countries attract investments and promote policies conducive to attracting investment, to encourage and facilitate the transfer of the needed technology to African countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, and to assist in building human and institutional capacities for the implementation of the New Partnership consistent with its priorities and objectives;

21. *Requests* the United Nations system to continue to provide assistance to the African Union and New Partnership secretariats and to African countries in developing projects and programmes within the scope of the priorities of the New Partnership;

22. *Invites* the Secretary-General, as a follow-up to the 2005 World Summit, to urge the United Nations development system to assist African countries in implementing quick-impact initiatives through, inter alia, the Millennium Villages Project;

23. *Decides* to hold a high-level meeting on "Africa's development needs: state of implementation of various commitments, challenges and the way forward" during its sixty-third session;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promote greater coherence in the work of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, on the basis of the agreed clusters;

25. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take measures to strengthen the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa in order to enable it to effectively fulfil its mandate, including monitoring and reporting on progress related to meeting the special needs of Africa;

26. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session on the basis of inputs from Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and other stakeholders in the New Partnership, such as the private sector and civil society.

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Agenda items 47 and 113

Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the General Assembly

Strengthening of the Economic and Social Council

The General Assembly,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[1]

Recalling also its resolutions 45/264 of 13 May 1991, 50/227 of 24 May 1996, 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 59/250 of 22 December 2004 and 60/265 of 30 June 2006,

Recalling further its resolution 60/180 of 20 December 2005 and Security Council resolution 1645 (2005) of 20 December 2005,

Reaffirming the role that the Charter of the United Nations and the General Assembly have vested in the Economic and Social Council, and recognizing the need for a more effective Council as a principal body for coordination, policy review, policy dialogue and recommendations on issues of economic and social development, as well as for implementation of the international development goals agreed at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Reaffirming also the commitments to and emphasizing the need to fully implement the global partnership for development set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[2] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[3] and the Plan of Implementation of the World

[1] See resolution 60/1.

[2] See resolution 55/2.

[3] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

06-61656 (E) 161106

Summit on Sustainable Development[4] and to enhance the momentum generated by the 2005 World Summit in order to operationalize and implement, at all levels, the commitments set out in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the 2005 World Summit, in the economic, social and related fields,

Reiterating that the Economic and Social Council should continue to strengthen its role as the central mechanism for system-wide coordination and thus promote the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences in the economic, social and related fields in accordance with the Charter and relevant General Assembly resolutions, in particular resolutions 50/227 and 57/270 B,

Resolving to accelerate the implementation of the measures and mechanisms defined in its resolution 57/270 B on integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Welcoming Economic and Social Council decision 2006/206 of 10 February 2006, entitled "Adapting the work of the Economic and Social Council",

Recalling that the Economic and Social Council should increase its role in overseeing system-wide coordination and the balanced integration of economic, social and environmental aspects of United Nations policies and programmes aimed at promoting sustainable development, and reaffirming that the Commission on Sustainable Development should continue to be the high-level body responsible for sustainable development within the United Nations system and serve as a forum for consideration of issues related to integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development,

In pursuance of paragraphs 155 and 156 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

1. *Decides* to maintain the current segment structure of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council;

2. *Also decides* that the Economic and Social Council should continue to promote global dialogue, inter alia through strengthening existing arrangements, including:

(a) The special high-level meeting with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

(b) An annual high-level policy dialogue with international financial and trade institutions held in the framework of a strengthened high-level segment of the annual substantive session of the Council;

(c) A discussion on a theme from economic, social and related fields to be decided by the Council and informed by a report of the Secretary-General;

3. *Further decides* that the biennial high-level Development Cooperation Forum will be held within the framework of the high-level segment of the Economic

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

and Social Council, while stressing the need to preserve the distinct identity of the Forum so as to facilitate high-level participation, with a view to enhancing the implementation of international development cooperation issues affecting the realization of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and to promote dialogue to find effective ways to support it;

4. *Decides* that the Development Cooperation Forum will be held in alternate years in the framework of the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council and that it will:

(a) Review trends and progress in international development cooperation and give policy guidance and recommendations to promote more effective international development cooperation;

(b) Identify gaps and obstacles with a view to making recommendations on practical measures and policy options to enhance coherence and effectiveness and to promote development cooperation for the realization of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

(c) Provide a platform for Member States to exchange lessons learned and share experiences in formulating, supporting and implementing national development strategies;

(d) In accordance with the rules of procedure, be open to participation by all stakeholders, including the organizations of the United Nations, the international financial and trade institutions, the regional organizations, civil society and private sector representatives;

5. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to consider launching the Development Cooperation Forum during the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2007 and thereafter convening it in New York, starting in 2008;

6. *Decides* that the Economic and Social Council should undertake a regular and periodic review and assessment of international economic and development policies and their impact on development;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare an analytical background report for consideration by the Development Cooperation Forum;

8. *Decides* that the Economic and Social Council should hold annual ministerial-level substantive reviews as part of its high-level segment, and also decides that such reviews should be conducted by means of a cross-sectoral approach focusing on thematic issues common to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, including the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals, review progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of those conferences and summits and their follow-up processes and assess its impact on the achievement of the goals and targets of the conferences and summits, and in this regard:

(a) Recommends that such reviews provide an opportunity for countries to make voluntary national presentations;

(b) Requests the Council to urge the functional commissions and other relevant subsidiary bodies and follow-up mechanisms, as appropriate, to contribute,

in accordance with their mandates and taking into account their specificity, to the assessment;

(c) Recommends that the Council establish a multi-year programme of work for the ministerial-level substantive reviews;

(d) Invites the organizations of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, to contribute within their respective mandates to the consideration of this matter by the Council;

9. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to urge the United Nations regional commissions, in collaboration with other regional and subregional organizations and processes, as appropriate, to contribute, within their mandates, to the review of progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields and to provide input to the discussions of the Council in accordance with its rules of procedure;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, when submitting his reports for the high-level segment, to include a concise, analytical section providing an assessment of progress, identifying gaps and obstacles in implementation and making recommendations to overcome those gaps and obstacles for consideration by Member States;

11. *Decides* that the outcome of the high-level segment should be one ministerial declaration;

12. *Also decides* that the Economic and Social Council should support and complement international efforts aimed at addressing humanitarian emergencies, including natural disasters, in order to promote an improved, coordinated response by the United Nations;

13. *Stresses* the importance of the humanitarian affairs segment of the Economic and Social Council in strengthening the coordination and effectiveness of United Nations humanitarian assistance;

14. *Emphasizes* that in addition to the humanitarian affairs segment, the Economic and Social Council should convene ad hoc meetings, in accordance with its rules of procedure, on specific humanitarian emergencies on the request of the affected Member State and following a recommendation of the Bureau, and that such ad hoc meetings should raise awareness and promote the engagement of all stakeholders in support of international relief efforts aimed at addressing those emergencies;

15. *Reaffirms* the role of the Economic and Social Council in providing overall coordination and guidance for operational development programmes and funds on a system-wide basis, including objectives, priorities and strategies in the implementation of the policies formulated by the General Assembly, as well as in concentrating on cross-cutting and coordination issues related to operational activities, in accordance with relevant Assembly resolutions;

16. *Also reaffirms* the importance of the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities, through which the Assembly establishes key system-wide policy orientations for the development cooperation and country-level modalities of the United Nations system;

17. *Recalls* the role of the Economic and Social Council in providing coordination and guidance to the United Nations system to ensure that those policy orientations are implemented on a system-wide basis in accordance with Assembly resolutions 48/162 of 20 December 1993, 50/227 and 57/270 B;

18. *Expresses* concern that insufficient provision of conference services and substantive support to the meetings of the Economic and Social Council has at times impeded its ability to fulfil its mandate despite its status as a body organized under the Charter, and in this regard decides to ensure provision of full and substantive support and conferences services to the Council for all meetings necessary to enable it to fulfil its strengthened mandate;

19. *Recognizes* that the Economic and Social Council, as a body organized under the Charter, is entitled to convene meetings as and when needed, with full substantive support and conference services and in this regard, decides that the Council, beginning with its 2007 session, is entitled to convene additional meetings, up to two weeks in duration, in order to facilitate the fulfilment of its newly assigned responsibilities for organizing the annual ministerial reviews and the Development Cooperation Forum, as well as to hold ad hoc meetings, in order to effectively fulfil its mandate under the Charter;

20. *Recalls* its resolution 60/180 on the Peacebuilding Commission, in which it recognized the need to address the special needs of countries emerging from conflict towards recovery, reintegration and reconstruction and to assist them in laying the foundation for sustainable development, and in this regard reaffirms the importance of interaction between the Economic and Social Council and the Commission;

21. *Underlines* the experience of the Economic and Social Council in the area of post-conflict peacebuilding and the success of its ad hoc advisory groups on countries emerging from conflict, and invites the Peacebuilding Commission to benefit from it;

22. *Reiterates* that the agenda of the Peacebuilding Commission will be based on, inter alia, requests for advice from the Economic and Social Council with the consent of a concerned Member State in exceptional circumstances on the verge of lapsing or relapsing into conflict and of which the Security Council is not seized in accordance with Article 12 of the Charter;

23. *Reiterates its request* to the Peacebuilding Commission to make the outcomes of its discussions, recommendations and other reports available as United Nations documents to, inter alia, the Economic and Social Council;

24. *Decides* to review the implementation of the present resolution at its sixty-fifth session.

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Agenda Item 16
The situation in Afghanistan

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Fiji, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Georgia, Greece, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Yemen: draft resolution

The situation in Afghanistan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 60/32 A and B of 30 November 2005 and all its previous relevant resolutions,

Recalling also all relevant Security Council resolutions and statements by the President of the Council on the situation in Afghanistan, in particular the most recent resolutions 1659 (2006) of 15 February 2006, 1662 (2006) of 23 March 2006 and 1707 (2006) of 12 September 2006, as well as the statement by the President of the Council on 26 July 2006,

Expressing its strong commitment to the implementation of the Afghanistan Compact[1] and its annexes, launched at the International Conference on Afghanistan held in London on 31 January and 1 February 2006, which provide the framework

[1] S/2006/90, annex.

for the partnership between the Government of Afghanistan and the international community,

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan, and respecting its multicultural, multi-ethnic and historical heritage,

Recognizing the urgent need to tackle the challenges in Afghanistan, including terrorist threats, the fight against narcotics, the lack of security, in particular in the south and east, the comprehensive nationwide disbandment of illegal armed groups and the development of Afghan Government institutions, including at the subnational level, the strengthening of the rule of law, the acceleration of justice sector reform, the promotion of national reconciliation, without prejudice to the fulfilment of the measures introduced by the Security Council in its resolution 1267 (1999) of 15 October 1999 and other relevant resolutions, and an Afghan-led transitional justice process, the safe and orderly return of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons, the promotion and protection of human rights and the advancement of economic and social development,

Expressing in this context its deep concern over attacks against both Afghan and foreign nationals committed to supporting the consolidation of peace, stability and development in Afghanistan, in particular United Nations and diplomatic staff, national and international humanitarian and development personnel, Afghan National Security Forces, the International Security Assistance Force as well as the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition, and noting with concern that the lack of security is causing some organizations to cease or curtail their humanitarian and development work in some parts of Afghanistan,

Recognizing the progress achieved, while nonetheless remaining deeply concerned about the problem of millions of anti-personnel landmines and explosive remnants of war, which constitute a great danger for the population and a major obstacle for the resumption of economic activities and for recovery and reconstruction efforts,

Noting that, despite improvements in building the security sector, increased terrorist attacks caused by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist groups, in particular in the south and east of Afghanistan over the past months, and the lack of security caused by criminal activity and the illicit production of and trafficking in drugs, remain a serious challenge, threatening the democratic process as well as reconstruction and economic development,

Noting also that the responsibility for providing security, law and order throughout the country resides with the Government of Afghanistan supported by the International Security Assistance Force and the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition, recognizing the institutional progress achieved in this respect, deeply concerned about the recent increase of violence, and stressing the importance of further extending central government authority to all parts of Afghanistan,

Commending the Afghan National Army and the Afghan National Police, the International Security Assistance Force and the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition for their efforts to improve security conditions in Afghanistan,

Acknowledging in this context that the Afghan National Army and the Afghan National Police require additional support to enhance their capability, including through the provision of more modern equipment,

Stressing that regional cooperation constitutes an effective means to promote security and development in Afghanistan,

Reaffirming in this context its continued support for the spirit and the provisions of the Bonn Agreement of 5 December 2001,[2] of the Berlin Declaration of 1 April 2004[3] and of the Afghanistan Compact of 31 January 2006, and pledging its continued support, after the successful completion of the political transition, to the Government and people of Afghanistan as they rebuild their country, strengthen the foundations of a constitutional democracy and resume their rightful place in the community of nations,

Applauding the inauguration of the Afghan National Assembly on 19 December 2005, completing the Bonn process, as well as the constitution of the provincial councils,

Welcoming the constitution of the national Government and noting the importance of it being representative of the ethnic diversity of the country, ensuring also the adequate participation of women,

Welcoming also the finalization of the ten-year strategy for justice reform in Afghanistan, and expressing its appreciation for the appointment and confirmation of a highly qualified Supreme Court,

Welcoming further in this regard the guarantee of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all Afghans in the new Constitution as a significant step towards an improved situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms, in particular for women and children,

Recalling Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women, peace and security, and applauding the progress achieved in the empowerment of women in Afghan politics as historic milestones in the political process, which will help to consolidate durable peace and national stability in Afghanistan, while noting the need to promote the empowerment of women also at the provincial level,

Noting at the same time, with concern, reports of continued violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law and violent or discriminatory practices, in particular against women and girls, in certain parts of the country, and stressing the need for adherence to international standards of tolerance and religious freedom,

Welcoming the presentation of the interim Afghanistan National Development Strategy and the adoption of the first report on the Millennium Development Goals by the Government of Afghanistan as well as its further efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals,

Welcoming also the continuing and growing ownership of the rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts by the Government of Afghanistan, and emphasizing the

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[2] Agreement on Provisional Arrangements in Afghanistan Pending the Re-establishment of Permanent Government Institutions (see S/2001/1154).

[3] Available from www.unama-afg.org.

crucial need to achieve ownership in all fields of governance and to improve institutional capabilities, including at the provincial level, in order to use aid more effectively,

Expressing its appreciation for the humanitarian assistance work of the international community in the reconstruction and development of Afghanistan, recognizing the necessity of further addressing the slow pace of change in the living conditions of the Afghan people, and noting the need to strengthen the capacity of the Government of Afghanistan to deliver basic services and to promote development,

Welcoming the continuous return of refugees and internally displaced persons, while noting with concern that conditions in parts of Afghanistan are not yet conducive to safe and sustainable returns to some places of origin and that high concentration of returns to major urban areas have placed an extreme burden on limited urban resources,

Aware of the high vulnerability of Afghanistan to natural disasters and harsh climate conditions, in particular drought or flooding,

Expressing its appreciation for the work of the provincial reconstruction teams and of the executive steering committee,

Recognizing that the social and economic development of Afghanistan, specifically the development of alternative gainful and sustainable livelihoods in the formal productive sector, is an important element of the successful implementation of the comprehensive Afghan national drug control strategy and depends to a large extent on enhanced international cooperation with the Government of Afghanistan,

Welcoming the launching of the updated National Drug Control Strategy[4] at the International Conference on Afghanistan on 31 January 2006,

Deeply concerned about the increased cultivation, production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs in Afghanistan, which is undermining stability and security as well as the political and economic reconstruction of Afghanistan and has dangerous repercussions in the region and far beyond, and commending in this context the publication of the updated National Drug Control Strategy and the reaffirmed commitment of the Government of Afghanistan to rid the country of this pernicious production and trade, including by decisive law enforcement measures,

Expressing its appreciation and strong support for the central and impartial role that the Secretary-General and his Special Representative continue to play in the consolidation of peace and stability in Afghanistan, and underlining the coordinating role of the United Nations in continuing to ensure a seamless transition, under Afghan leadership, from humanitarian relief to recovery and reconstruction,

Welcoming, in this context, the establishment of the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board pursuant to the Afghanistan Compact as an instrument to further improve coordination between the Government of Afghanistan and its international partners and to monitor the implementation of all benchmarks,

Recognizing the need for a continued strong international commitment to humanitarian assistance and for programmes, under the ownership of the Government of Afghanistan, of recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction, and

[4] See S/2006/106, annex.

expressing, at the same time, its appreciation to the United Nations system and to all States and international and non-governmental organizations whose international and local staff continue to respond positively to the humanitarian transition and development needs of Afghanistan despite increasing security concerns and difficulties of access in certain areas,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General[5] and the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Strongly condemns* the upsurge of violence throughout Afghanistan, in particular in the southern and eastern parts, owing to the increased violent and terrorist activity by the Taliban, Al-Qaida, other extremist groups and those involved in the narcotics trade, which has resulted in increased casualties among Afghan civilians, Afghan National Security Forces, the International Security Assistance Force and the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition, as well as among the personnel of Afghan and international aid agencies and all other humanitarian workers;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the provision of sufficient security, welcomes the expansion of the presence of the International Security Assistance Force in southern and eastern Afghanistan, and calls upon Member States to continue contributing personnel, equipment and other resources to the International Security Assistance Force and to further develop the provincial reconstruction teams in close coordination with the Government of Afghanistan and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, and welcomes the extension of its presence in additional provinces, thus ensuring that the United Nations fulfils its essential coordinating role, and encourages the Mission to continue expansion of its presence throughout the country;

5. *Calls upon* the Government of Afghanistan, with the assistance of the international community, including through the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition and the International Security Assistance Force, in accordance with their respective designated responsibilities, to continue to address the threat to the security and stability of Afghanistan posed by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist groups as well as by criminal violence, in particular violence involving the drug trade;

6. *Urges* the Government of Afghanistan and local authorities to take all possible steps to ensure the safe and unhindered access of United Nations, development and humanitarian personnel to all affected populations;

7. *Strongly condemns* all acts of violence and intimidation, in particular that directed against development and humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel as well as against Afghan civilians, including women activists, regrets the loss of life and physical harm, and urges the Government of Afghanistan and local authorities to make every effort, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 60/123 of 15 December 2005, to bring to justice the perpetrators of attacks, to ensure the safety, security and free movement of all United Nations, development and humanitarian personnel and to protect the property of the United Nations and of development or humanitarian organizations;

[5] A/61/326-S/2006/727.

8. *Welcomes* the successful completion of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former Afghan combatants, which started in October 2003;

9. *Also welcomes* the launching of the programme of disbandment of illegal armed groups, and stresses the importance of advancing its full implementation throughout the country under Afghan ownership, while ensuring further coordination and coherence with other relevant efforts regarding security sector reform and community development;

10. *Further welcomes* in this context the commitment of the President of Afghanistan to stand firm on the disbandment of illegal armed groups at the Second Tokyo Conference on Consolidation of Peace in Afghanistan on 5 July 2006, and encourages the Government of Afghanistan to work actively at national, provincial and local levels to advance this commitment;

11. *Welcomes* the development of the new professional Afghan National Army and the Afghan National Police, calls for accelerated efforts to modernize and strengthen both institutions, welcomes the progress made in the creation of a fair and effective justice system as important steps towards the goal of strengthening the Government of Afghanistan, providing security, ensuring the rule of law throughout the country, and urges the international community to continue to support the efforts of the Government of Afghanistan in these areas in a coordinated manner;

12. *Also welcomes* the completion of the disarmament and demobilization of child soldiers in the Afghan Military Forces, stresses the importance of the reintegration of child soldiers and care for other children affected by war, commends the Government of Afghanistan for its efforts in this regard, and encourages it to continue efforts in cooperation with the United Nations;

13. *Expresses its concern* about the recruitment and use of child soldiers by illegal armed groups in Afghanistan, reiterates the importance of ending the use of children contrary to international law, and welcomes the accession by Afghanistan to the Convention on the Rights of the Child[6] and the two optional protocols thereto;[7]

14. *Urges* the Government of Afghanistan to meet its responsibilities under the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,[8] to cooperate fully with the mine action programme coordinated by the United Nations, and to eliminate all existing stocks of anti-personnel landmines;

15. *Recognizes* the completion of the establishment of democratic institutions according to the Bonn process, notes the challenges lying ahead identified in the Afghanistan Compact,[1] and calls upon the international community to continue to provide sustained support;

16. *Notes with concern* the negative impact of the security situation on the enjoyment of human rights, and calls for all parties to fully respect human rights and international humanitarian law throughout Afghanistan and, with the assistance of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission and of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, to fully implement the human rights provisions

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[6] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[7] Ibid., vol. 2171, No. 27531; and ibid., vol. 2173, No. 27531.

[8] Ibid., vol. 2056, No. 35597.

of the new Afghan Constitution, and commends the commitment of the Government of Afghanistan in this respect;

17. *Calls* for the full respect of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all, without discrimination of any kind, including on the basis of gender, ethnicity or religion, in accordance with obligations under the Afghan Constitution and international law;

18. *Stresses* the need to ensure respect for the right of freedom of expression and the right to freedom of thought, conscience or belief;

19. *Continues to emphasize* the necessity of investigating allegations of current and past violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law, including violations committed against persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, as well as against women and girls, of facilitating the provision of efficient and effective remedies to the victims and of bringing the perpetrators to justice in accordance with international law;

20. *Reiterates* the important role of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission in the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, stresses the need to expand its range of operation in all parts of Afghanistan in accordance with the Afghan Constitution; welcomes the adoption by the Government of Afghanistan of the Action Plan on Peace, Reconciliation and Justice, and stresses the importance of judicial accountability of human rights offenders in accordance with national and international law;

21. *Recalls* Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security, commends the efforts of the Government of Afghanistan to mainstream gender issues and to protect and promote the equal rights of women and men as guaranteed, inter alia, by virtue of its ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[9] and by the Afghan Constitution, welcomes the level of participation of Afghan women in the parliamentary and provincial council elections, including the election of female candidates to these bodies, and reiterates the continued importance of the full and equal participation of women in all spheres of Afghan life;

22. *Welcomes* the presentation of the interim national action plan for women in Afghanistan currently under consultation and the significant efforts by the Government of Afghanistan to counter discrimination, urges the Government to actively involve all elements of Afghan society, in particular women, in the development and implementation of relief, rehabilitation, recovery and reconstruction programmes, and encourages the collection and use of statistical data on a sex-disaggregated basis to provide information on gender-based violence and accurately track the progress of full integration of women into the political, economic and social life of Afghanistan;

23. *Recognizes* the significant progress achieved on gender equality in Afghanistan in recent years, and strongly condemns incidents of discrimination and violence against women in Afghanistan, wherever they occur;

24. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Government of Afghanistan to formulate a national plan of action on combating child trafficking, encourages the Government

[9] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

to formulate the plan of action guided by the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[10] and stresses the importance of considering becoming a party to the Protocol;

25. *Urges* the Government of Afghanistan to continue to effectively reform the public administration sector in order to implement the rule of law, to ensure good governance and accountability at both national and local levels, and stresses the importance of meeting the respective benchmarks of the Afghanistan Compact, with the support of the international community;

26. *Encourages* the Government of Afghanistan to vigorously pursue its efforts to establish a more effective, accountable and transparent administration at all levels of Government leading the fight against corruption in accordance with the Afghanistan Compact, and notes with concern the effects of administrative corruption with regard to security, good governance and combating the narcotics industry;

27. *Stresses once again* the need for further progress on a comprehensive judicial reform in Afghanistan, and urges the Government of Afghanistan and the international community to devote resources also to the reconstruction and reform of the prison sector in order to improve respect for the rule of law and human rights therein, while reducing physical and mental health risks to inmates;

28. *Urges* the Government of Afghanistan to address, with the assistance of the international community, the question of claims for land property through a comprehensive land titling programme, including formal registration of all property and improved security of property rights, and welcomes the steps already taken by the Government in this regard;

29. *Welcomes* the presentation of the interim Afghanistan National Development Strategy at the International Conference on Afghanistan held in London on 31 January and 1 February 2006, underlines the need to finalize the strategy as soon as possible, and urges the international community actively to support this process;

30. *Reiterates* the necessity of providing Afghan children with educational and health facilities in all parts of the country, recognizing the special needs of girls, strongly condemns terrorist attacks on education facilities, and encourages the Government of Afghanistan, with the assistance of the international community, to expand these facilities, to train professional staff and to promote full and equal access to them by all members of Afghan society, including in remote areas;

31. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments that continue to host Afghan refugees, acknowledging the huge burden they have so far shouldered in this regard, and reminds them of their obligations under international refugee law with respect to the protection of refugees, the principle of voluntary return and the right to seek asylum and to allow international access for their protection and care;

32. *Urges* the Government of Afghanistan, acting with the support of the international community, to continue and strengthen its efforts to create the conditions for the voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return and the reintegration of the remaining Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons;

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[10] Resolution 55/25, annex II.

33. *Calls* for the provision of continued international assistance to the large numbers of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons to facilitate their voluntary, safe and orderly return and sustainable reintegration into society so as to contribute to the stability of the entire country;

34. *Welcomes* the efforts to date of the Afghan authorities to carry out the updated National Drug Control Strategy presented at the International Conference on Afghanistan on 31 January 2006, and urges the Government of Afghanistan to take decisive action, in particular to stop the processing of and trade in drugs, by pursuing the concrete steps set out in the Strategy and in the Afghanistan Compact;

35. *Calls upon* the international community to assist the Government of Afghanistan in carrying out its National Drug Control Strategy, aimed at eliminating the cultivation, production, trafficking and consumption of illicit drugs, including through increased support for Afghan law enforcement and criminal justice agencies, rural development, demand reduction, elimination of illicit crops, increasing public awareness and building the capacity of drug control institutions;

36. *Expresses concern* about the recent increase in the cultivation of opium, notes that opium cultivation, and the related drug production and trafficking, pose a serious threat to security, the rule of law and development in Afghanistan, urges the Government of Afghanistan, supported by the international community, to work to mainstream counter-narcotics throughout all the national programs, commends the efforts of the Government in this regard, and urges it to increase its efforts against opium cultivation;

37. *Encourages* the international community to increasingly channel counter-narcotics funding through the Government of Afghanistan's counter-narcotics trust fund;

38. *Urges* the Government of Afghanistan, while carrying out its National Drug Control Strategy, to promote the development of sustainable livelihoods in the formal production sector as well as other sectors, thus improving substantially the lives, health and security of the people, particularly in rural areas, and calls upon the international community, in cooperation with the Government, to continue to assist it in this regard;

39. *Supports* the fight against the illicit trafficking in drugs and precursors within Afghanistan and in neighbouring States and countries along trafficking routes, including increased cooperation among them to strengthen anti-narcotic controls to curb the drug flow;

40. *Welcomes* the outcome of the Second Ministerial Conference on Drug Trafficking Routes from Afghanistan organized by the Government of the Russian Federation in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime held in Moscow from 26 to 28 June 2006, within the framework of the Paris Pact initiative, and therefore calls upon States to strengthen international and regional cooperation to counter the threat to the international community posed by the illicit production and trafficking of drugs;

41. *Also welcomes* the establishment of the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board for the implementation of the political commitments of the Afghanistan Compact, and expresses its appreciation for the support to the United Nations

Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and the Government of Afghanistan by the international members of the Board;

42. *Endorses* the key principles for cooperation between the Government of Afghanistan and the international community as referred to in the Afghanistan Compact: respect for the pluralistic culture, values and history of Afghanistan, based on Islam; partnership between the Government of Afghanistan, with its sovereign responsibilities, and the international community, with a central and impartial coordinating role for the United Nations; further engagement of participation and aspiration to ownership of the Afghan people; pursuit of fiscal, institutional and environmental sustainability; building of lasting Afghan capacity and effective state and civil society institutions; ensuring balanced and fair allocation of domestic and international resources throughout the country; recognition of equal rights and responsibilities of men and women in all policies; promotion of regional cooperation; and fight against corruption and ensuring public transparency and accountability;

43. *Commends* the continuing efforts of the signatories of the Kabul Declaration on Good-neighbourly Relations of 22 December 2002[11] to implement their commitments under the Declaration, including, within that framework, those under the Kabul Declaration of 5 December 2005, adopted at the first Regional Economic Cooperation Conference, and furthermore calls upon all other States to respect and support the implementation of those provisions and to promote regional stability;

44. *Welcomes* efforts by the Governments of Afghanistan and its neighbouring partners to foster trust and cooperation with each other, and looks forward, where appropriate, to increasing cooperation between Afghanistan and all its neighbouring and regional partners against the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist groups and in promoting peace and prosperity in Afghanistan, in the region and beyond;

45. *Appreciates* the efforts of the members of the Tripartite Commission, namely, Afghanistan, Pakistan and the United States of America, to continue to address cross-border activities and to broaden its cooperation, welcomes the participation of the International Security Assistance Force, and calls upon the international community to support those efforts;

46. *Invites* all States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations providing assistance to Afghanistan to focus on institution-building in a coordinated manner and to ensure that such work complements and contributes to the development of an economy characterized by sound macroeconomic policies, the development of a financial sector that provides services, inter alia, to microenterprises, small and medium-sized enterprises and households, transparent business regulations and accountability;

47. *Encourages* the international community, including all donor nations, to assist the Government of Afghanistan in making capacity-building and human resources development a cross-cutting priority;

48. *Urges* the international community, in accordance with the Afghanistan Compact, to increase the proportion of donor assistance channelled directly to the core budget, as agreed bilaterally between the Government of Afghanistan and each donor, as well as through other more predictable core budget funding modalities in

[11] S/2002/1416, annex.

which the Government participates, such as the Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund, the Law and Order Trust Fund and the Counter-Narcotics Trust Fund;

49. *Urgently appeals* to all States, the United Nations system and international and non-governmental organizations to continue to provide, in close coordination with the Government of Afghanistan and in accordance with its national development strategy, all possible and necessary humanitarian, recovery, reconstruction, financial, technical and material assistance for Afghanistan;

50. *Emphasizes* the need to maintain, strengthen and review civil-military relations among international actors, as appropriate, at all levels in order to ensure complementarity of action based on the different mandates and comparative advantages of the humanitarian, development, law enforcement and military actors present in Afghanistan, bearing in mind the central and impartial coordinating role of the United Nations;

51. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly every six months during its sixty-first session on developments in Afghanistan, as well as on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

52. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan".

United Nations A/61/L.25/Add.1

General Assembly

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Sixty-first session
Agenda item 16
The situation in Afghanistan

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Fiji, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Yemen: draft resolution

The situation in Afghanistan

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Cameroon, Cape Verde, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Jordan, Kuwait, Liberia, Malaysia, Mongolia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, San Marino, Sri Lanka, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia and Turkmenistan

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United Nations A/61/L.26

General Assembly

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Sixty-first session
Agenda item 108 (q)
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cameroon, Chad, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Guyana, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Uzbekistan and Yemen: draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 37/4 of 22 October 1982, 38/4 of 28 October 1983, 39/7 of 8 November 1984, 40/4 of 25 October 1985, 41/3 of 16 October 1986, 42/4 of 15 October 1987, 43/2 of 17 October 1988, 44/8 of 18 October 1989, 45/9 of 25 October 1990, 46/13 of 28 October 1991, 47/18 of 23 November 1992, 48/24 of 24 November 1993, 49/15 of 15 November 1994, 50/17 of 20 November 1995, 51/18 of 14 November 1996, 52/4 of 22 October 1997, 53/16 of 29 October 1998, 54/7 of 25 October 1999, 55/9 of 30 October 2000, 56/47 of 7 December 2001, 57/42 of 21 November 2002 and 59/8 of 22 October 2004,

Recalling also its resolution 3369 (XXX) of 10 October 1975, by which it decided to invite the Organization of the Islamic Conference to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly and of its subsidiary organs in the capacity of observer,

Welcoming the efforts of the Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in strengthening the role of the organization in conflict prevention, confidence-building, peacekeeping, conflict resolution and post-conflict

06-63560 (E) 301106

rehabilitation in member States as well as in conflict situations involving Muslim communities,

Noting the adoption by the third extraordinary session of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Makkah, Saudi Arabia, on 7 and 8 December 2005, of the Ten-Year Programme of Action,[1]

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations,[2]

Taking into account the desire of the two organizations to continue to cooperate closely in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural and scientific fields and in their common search for solutions to global problems, such as questions relating to international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, the promotion of a culture of peace through dialogue and cooperation, decolonization, fundamental human rights and economic and social development,

Recalling the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Noting the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations, its funds and programmes and the specialized agencies and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, its subsidiary organs and its specialized and affiliated institutions,

Noting also the encouraging progress made in the ten priority areas of cooperation between the two organizations and their respective agencies and institutions, as well as in the identification of other areas of cooperation between them,

Convinced that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its organs and institutions contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Welcoming the results of the general meeting of the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions, held in Rabat from 11 to 13 July 2006, and the fact that these meetings are now being held every two years, with the next one scheduled for 2008, and also welcoming the memorandum of understanding on technical cooperation in the field of human rights between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Organization of the Islamic Conference signed at the Rabat meeting,

Also welcoming the issuance of a joint statement in Doha on 25 February 2006 by the Secretaries-General of the United Nations, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the League of Arab States, together with the representatives of Qatar, Spain and Turkey, in the context of the Alliance of Civilizations, committing themselves to formulate a joint strategy to promote tolerance and mutual respect,

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[1] See A/60/633-S/2005/826, annex III.

[2] A/61/256 and Add.1.

Further welcoming the close and multifaceted cooperation between the organizations and specialized institutions of the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference with a view to strengthening the capacities of the two organizations in addressing challenges to development and social progress,

Noting with appreciation the determination of the two organizations to strengthen further the existing cooperation by developing specific proposals in the designated priority areas of cooperation, as well as in the political field,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

2. *Urges* the United Nations system to cooperate with the Organization of the Islamic Conference in areas of mutual interest, as appropriate;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the active participation of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the work of the United Nations towards the realization of the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations;

4. *Requests* the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference to continue to cooperate in their common search for solutions to global problems, such as questions relating to international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, promotion of a culture of peace through dialogue and cooperation, decolonization, human rights and fundamental freedoms, terrorism, emergency relief and rehabilitation, social and economic development and technical cooperation;

5. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference to continue to strengthen cooperation between the two organizations in areas of common concern and to review and explore innovative ways and means of enhancing the mechanisms of such cooperation;

6. *Welcomes with appreciation* the continuing cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the fields of peacemaking, preventive diplomacy, peacekeeping and peacebuilding, and notes the close cooperation between the two organizations in reconstruction and development in Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Sierra Leone;

7. *Welcomes* the efforts of the secretariats of the two organizations to strengthen information exchange, coordination and cooperation between them in areas of mutual interest in the political field and to develop practical modalities of such cooperation;

8. *Also welcomes* the periodic high-level meetings between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, as well as between senior secretariat officials of the two organizations, and encourages their participation in important meetings of the two organizations;

9. *Encourages* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to expand their cooperation with the subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, in particular by negotiating cooperation agreements, and through necessary contacts and meetings of the respective focal points for cooperation in

priority areas of interest to the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

10. *Urges* the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system, especially the lead agencies, to provide increased technical and other forms of assistance to the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions in order to enhance cooperation;

11. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his continued efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions to serve the mutual interests of the two organizations in the political, economic, social, cultural, humanitarian and scientific fields;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the state of cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference".

United Nations A/61/L.26/Add.1

General Assembly

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Sixty-first session
Agenda item 108 (q)
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cameroon, Chad, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Guyana, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Uzbekistan and Yemen: draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Brunei Darussalam, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates

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United Nations A/61/L.27

General Assembly

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29 November 2006

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Sixty-first session
Agenda item 10
The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict

Armenia, Barbados, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Israel, Italy, Japan, Lesotho, Liberia, Namibia, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Thailand and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict: breaking the link between the illicit transaction of rough diamonds and armed conflict as a contribution to prevention and settlement of conflicts

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that the trade in conflict diamonds continues to be a matter of serious international concern, which can be directly linked to the fuelling of armed conflict, the activities of rebel movements aimed at undermining or overthrowing legitimate Governments and the illicit traffic in and proliferation of armaments, especially small arms and light weapons,

Recognizing also the devastating impact of conflicts fuelled by the trade in conflict diamonds on the peace, safety and security of people in affected countries, and the systematic and gross human rights violations that have been perpetrated in such conflicts,

Noting the negative impact of such conflicts on regional stability and the obligations placed upon States by the Charter of the United Nations regarding the maintenance of international peace and security,

Recognizing, therefore, that continued action to curb the trade in conflict diamonds is imperative,

Recalling that the elimination of illicit diamonds from legitimate trade is the primary objective of the Kimberley Process,

Bearing in mind the positive benefits of the legitimate diamond trade to producing countries, and underlining the need for continued international action to prevent the problem of conflict diamonds from negatively affecting the trade in legitimate diamonds, which makes a critical contribution to the economies of many of the producing, exporting and importing States, especially developing States,

06-63345 (E) 301106

Noting that the vast majority of rough diamonds produced in the world are from legitimate sources,

Recalling the Charter of the United Nations and all the relevant resolutions of the Security Council related to conflict diamonds, and determined to contribute to and support the implementation of the measures provided for in those resolutions,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 1459 (2003) of 28 January 2003, in which the Council strongly supported the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme[1] as a valuable contribution against trafficking in conflict diamonds,

Welcoming the important contribution of the Kimberley Process, which was initiated by African diamond-producing countries,

Noting with satisfaction that the implementation of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme continues to have a positive impact in reducing the opportunity for conflict diamonds to play a role in fuelling armed conflict and would help to protect legitimate trade and ensure the effective implementation of the relevant resolutions on trade in conflict diamonds,

Recalling its resolutions 55/56 of 1 December 2000, 56/263 of 13 March 2002, 57/302 of 15 April 2003, 58/290 of 14 April 2004, 59/144 of 15 December 2004 and 60/182 of 20 December 2005, in which it called for the development and implementation as well as a periodic review of proposals for a simple, effective and pragmatic international certification scheme for rough diamonds,

Welcoming, in this regard, the implementation of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme in such a way as not to impede the legitimate trade in diamonds or impose an undue burden on Governments or industry, particularly smaller producers, nor hinder the development of the diamond industry,

Welcoming also the decision of forty-seven Kimberley Process participants, representing seventy-one countries, including the twenty-five members of the European Union represented by the European Commission, to address the problem of conflict diamonds by participating in the Kimberley Process and implementing the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme,

Welcoming further the important contributions made and that continue to be made by the diamond industry, in particular the World Diamond Council, as well as civil society, to assist international efforts in stopping the trade in conflict diamonds,

Welcoming the voluntary self-regulation initiatives for the diamond industry announced by the World Diamond Council, and recognizing that a system of such voluntary self-regulation will contribute, as described in the Interlaken Declaration of 5 November 2002 on the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme for Rough Diamonds,[2] to ensuring the effectiveness of national systems of internal control for rough diamonds,

Appreciating in this regard the decision taken by the plenary meeting of the Kimberley Process, held in Gaborone from 6 to 9 November 2006, based on calls from participants, civil society and the World Diamond Council urging stronger

[1] See A/57/489.

[2] Ibid., annex 2.

internal control standards for participants, together with measures offering clearer guidance on implementing effective controls from mine to export, stronger government oversight of the diamond industry, and spot checks of industry compliance,

Noting with appreciation that the Kimberley Process has pursued its deliberations on an inclusive basis, involving concerned stakeholders, including producing, exporting and importing States, the diamond industry and civil society, as well as applicants,

Recognizing that State sovereignty should be fully respected and that the principles of equality, mutual benefits and consensus should be adhered to,

Recognizing also that the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, which came into effect on 1 January 2003, will be credible only if all participants have requisite national legislation coupled with effective and credible internal systems of control designed to eliminate the presence of conflict diamonds in the chain of producing, exporting and importing rough diamonds within their own territories, while taking into account that differences in production methods and trading practices, as well as differences in institutional controls thereof, may require different approaches to meeting minimum standards,

1. *Reaffirms* its strong and continuing support for the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme[1] and the Kimberley Process as a whole;

2. *Recognizes* that the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme can help to ensure the effective implementation of relevant resolutions of the Security Council containing sanctions on the trade in conflict diamonds, and act as a mechanism for the prevention of future conflicts; and calls for the full implementation of existing Security Council measures targeting the illicit trade in rough diamonds, particularly conflict diamonds which play a role in fuelling conflict;

3. *Also recognizes* the important contributions that the international efforts to address the problem of conflict diamonds, including the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, have made to the settlement of conflicts and the consolidation of peace in Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia and Sierra Leone;

4. *Takes note* of Security Council resolution 1643 (2005) which calls upon the States in the West Africa region that are not participants in the Kimberley Process to intensify their efforts to join the Kimberley Process, stresses that the widest possible participation in the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme is essential and encourages all Member States to contribute to the work of the Kimberley Process by seeking membership, participating actively in the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme and complying with its undertakings;

5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Chair of the Kimberley Process submitted pursuant to resolution 60/182 of 20 December 2005,[3] and congratulates the Governments, the regional economic integration organization, the diamond industry and civil society participating in the Kimberley Process for contributing to the development, implementation and monitoring of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme;

[3] A/61/589, annex.

6. *Notes* the decision of the General Council of the World Trade Organization of 15 May 2003 granting a waiver with respect to the measures taken to implement the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, effective from 1 January 2003 to 31 December 2006;[4] and the decision of the General Council of 17 November 2006 granting an extension of the waiver through 31 December 2012;[5]

7. *Notes with satisfaction* that in line with paragraph 7 of its resolution 60/182, the preliminary development of "footprints" that characterize diamond production from Côte d'Ivoire has been undertaken; and encourages expeditious commencement of further work to develop similar footprints for other diamond producers;

8. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution of the Kimberley Process in preparing a detailed assessment of the volume of rough diamonds produced in and exported from Côte d'Ivoire as requested by Security Council resolution 1643 (2005); and recognizing the cooperation between the Kimberley Process and the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire, calls for the full implementation of the resolution on the subject of illicit diamond production in Côte d'Ivoire adopted by the plenary meeting of the Kimberley Process, held in Moscow from 15 to 17 November 2005, and encourages continued cooperation between the Kimberley Process and the United Nations in tackling this issue;

9. *Also notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Kimberley Process to address concerns raised in the context of the report of the Group of Experts on Côte d'Ivoire[6] submitted to the Security Council involving allegations that Ivorian diamonds were entering legitimate trade through third countries;

10. *Welcomes* the establishment of a new Working Group of the Kimberley Process on Artisanal Alluvial Production under the chairmanship of Angola, which will address issues of particular concern to artisanal alluvial producers and further contribute to the implementation of the existing declaration on improving internal controls over alluvial diamond production, and encourages potential donors to provide capacity-building assistance to further the effective implementation of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution of the Kimberley Process and of its Chair to the work of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1521 (2003) concerning Liberia, including the submission of a report on the results of the Kimberley Process expert mission to Liberia, as well as the progress made by Liberia towards putting in place the necessary internal controls and other requirements in order to satisfy the minimum requirements of the Kimberley Process pursuant to Council resolution 1521 (2003), welcomes the contributions of the United Nations Mission in Liberia, the United States of America and other donors to these efforts, and encourages all those in a position to assist Liberia, to do so;

12. *Also notes with appreciation* the conclusions of the three-year review of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme and the recommendations adopted by the plenary meeting of the Kimberley Process, held in Gaborone from 6 to

[4] See World Trade Organization, document WT/L/518. Available from http://docsonline.wto.org.

[5] See World Trade Organization, document G/C/W/559/Rev.1. Available from http://docsonline.wto.org.

[6] S/2006/735 of 5 October 2006.

9 November 2006, and notes that the timely implementation of these recommendations will strengthen and consolidate the Process and therefore encourages the timely implementation of those recommendations;

13 *Recognizes* that the peer review mechanism and the collection and submission of statistical data are critical monitoring tools essential for effective implementation of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, and in this respect:

(a) Welcomes the important progress made in the implementation of the peer review mechanism in the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, encourages all remaining participants to receive voluntary review visits, and notes with appreciation the intention of the Kimberley Process to commence a second round of review visits in 2007;

(b) Also welcomes the progress made towards the collection and submission of statistical reports on the production and trade in rough diamonds, encourages all of the Kimberley Process participants to enhance the quality of data, and to this end applauds the decision of the plenary meeting held at Gaborone to release Kimberley Process summary data on trade and production, by value and volume, and certificate counts for 2004 and 2005 data;

14. *Notes with appreciation* the assistance and capacity-building efforts extended by various donors and encourages other donors to provide financial and technical expertise to Kimberley Process participants to help them develop tighter monitoring and control measures;

15. *Acknowledges with great appreciation* the important contribution that Botswana, as Chair of the Kimberley Process in 2006, has made to the efforts to curb the trade in conflict diamonds, and welcomes the succession of the European Community as Chair and India as Vice-Chair of the Process for 2007;

16. *Requests* the Chair of the Kimberley Process to submit a report on the implementation of the Process to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled "The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict".

United Nations A/61/L.27/Add.1

General Assembly

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4 December 2006

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Sixty-first session
Agenda item 10
The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict

Armenia, Barbados, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Israel, Italy, Japan, Lesotho, Liberia, Namibia, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Thailand and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict: breaking the link between the illicit transaction of rough diamonds and armed conflict as a contribution to prevention and settlement of conflicts

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Australia, Austria, Belarus, Central African Republic, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Guinea, Guyana, Indonesia, Latvia, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mauritius, Moldova, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

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United Nations A/61/L.28

General Assembly

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Sixty-first session
Agenda item 155
Commemoration of the two-hundredth anniversary of the abolition of the trans-Atlantic slave trade

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Commemoration of the two-hundredth anniversary of the abolition of the trans-Atlantic slave trade

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[1] which proclaimed that no one shall be held in slavery or servitude and that slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms,

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

06-62313 (E) 211106

Recalling that the trans-Atlantic slave trade, which operated between the fifteenth and late nineteenth centuries, involved the forced transportation of millions of Africans as slaves, mostly from West Africa to the Americas, thereby enriching the imperial empires of the time,

Honouring the memory of those who died as a result of slavery, including through exposure to the horrors of the middle passage and in revolt against and resistance to enslavement,

Recognizing that the slave trade and slavery are among the worst violations of human rights in the history of humanity, bearing in mind particularly their scale and duration,

Deeply concerned that it has taken the international community almost two hundred years to acknowledge that slavery and the slave trade are a crime against humanity and that they should always be deemed so,

Recalling that slavery and the slave trade were declared a crime against humanity by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001,

Acknowledging that the slave trade and the legacy of slavery are at the heart of situations of profound social and economic inequality, hatred, bigotry, racism and prejudice, which continue to affect people of African descent today,

Recalling paragraphs 98 through 106 of the Durban Declaration[2] and emphasizing, in particular, the importance of the "provision of effective remedies, recourse, redress, and compensatory and other measures at the national, regional and international levels", aimed at countering the continued impact of slavery and the slave trade,

Recognizing the knowledge gap that exists with regard to the consequences created by the slave trade and slavery, and with regard to the interactions, past and present, generated among the peoples of Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas, including the Caribbean,

Welcoming the work of the International Scientific Committee of the Slave Route Project of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which aims to correct this knowledge gap, and looks forward to its report in due course,

Recalling resolution 28 adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-first session,[3] proclaiming 2004 as the International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition, and recalling also 23 August as that Organization's International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition,

Noting that 2007 will mark the two-hundredth anniversary of the abolition of the trans-Atlantic slave trade, which contributed significantly to the abolition of slavery,

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[2] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

[3] See *Records of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October–3 November 2001*, vol. 1, *Resolutions* (Paris, 2002), chap. V.

1. *Decides* to designate 25 March 2007 as the International Day for the Commemoration of the Two-hundredth Anniversary of the Abolition of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade;

2. *Urges* Member States that have not already done so to develop educational programmes designed to educate and inculcate in future generations, including through school curricula, an understanding of the lessons, history and consequences of slavery and the slave trade;

3. *Decides* to convene, on 25 March 2007, a special commemorative meeting of the General Assembly on the International Day for the Commemoration of the Two-hundredth Anniversary of the Abolition of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a programme of outreach, with the involvement of Member States and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to appropriately commemorate the two-hundredth anniversary of the abolition of the trans-Atlantic slave trade;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session a special report on initiatives taken by States to implement paragraphs 101 and 102 of the Durban Declaration aimed at countering the legacy of slavery and contributing to the restoration of the dignity of the victims of slavery and the slave trade.

United Nations A/61/L.29

General Assembly

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22 November 2006

Original: English

Sixty-first session
Agenda item 108 (e)
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago: draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/8 of 16 October 1991, 49/141 of 20 December 1994, 51/16 of 11 November 1996, 53/17 of 29 October 1998, 55/17 of 7 November 2000, 57/41 of 21 November 2002 and 59/138 of 10 December 2004,

Bearing in mind the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations on the existence of regional arrangements or agencies for dealing with such matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security as are appropriate for regional action and other activities consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind also the assistance given by the United Nations towards the maintenance of peace and security in the Caribbean region,

Recalling the signing, on 27 May 1997, by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community of a cooperation agreement between the secretariats of the two organizations,

Bearing in mind that, in its resolutions 54/225 of 22 December 1999, 55/203 of 20 December 2000, 57/261 of 20 December 2002 and 59/230 of 22 December 2004, it recognized the importance of adopting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development,

Bearing in mind also that in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, Heads of State and Government resolved to address the special needs of small island developing States by

06-62734 (E) 241106

implementing the Barbados Programme of Action[1] and the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly[2] rapidly and in full,

Noting that the World Summit for Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002, considered the specific issues and problems facing small island developing States, taking note in this regard of the 2002 Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[3] and noting the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, held in Port Louis, Mauritius, from 10 to 14 January 2005,

Noting also that the Caribbean region is the second most hazard-prone region in the world and is frequently exposed to devastating hazards including earthquakes, floods, hurricanes and volcanic eruptions,

Noting further that the Caribbean region has been hard hit, and in some cases devastated, by hurricanes in the recent past, and concerned that their frequency, intensity and destructive power continue to pose a challenge to the development of the region,

Noting that the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS adopted by the General Assembly in resolution S-26/2 of 27 June 2001 recognized the Caribbean region as having the second-highest rate of infection after sub-Saharan Africa and that the region therefore needs special attention and assistance from the international community,

Noting also the commitment undertaken by the international community in the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS,[4] adopted by the 2006 High-level Meeting on HIV/AIDS, to assist low- and middle-income countries in achieving universal access to comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention programmes, treatment, care and support by 2010,

Affirming the need to strengthen the cooperation that already exists between entities of the United Nations system and the Caribbean Community in the areas of economic and social development, as well as the areas of political and humanitarian affairs,

Convinced of the need for the coordinated utilization of available resources to promote the common objectives of the two organizations,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations,[5]

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[1] Programme of Action for Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (*Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II).

[2] See resolution S-22/2.

[3] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[4] Resolution 60/262, annex.

[5] A/61/256 and Add.1.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[5] in particular part one, section IV, on the Caribbean Community, as well as efforts to strengthen cooperation;

2. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in association with the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community, as well as the relevant regional organizations, to continue to assist in furthering the development and maintenance of peace and security within the Caribbean region;

3. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to promote and expand cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community in order to increase the capacity of the two organizations to attain their objectives;

4. *Urges* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community in order to initiate, maintain and increase consultations and programmes with the Caribbean Community and its associated institutions in the attainment of their objectives, with special attention to the areas and issues identified at the third general meeting between representatives of the Caribbean Community and its associated institutions and of the United Nations system, held in New York on 12 and 13 April 2004, as set out in the report of the Secretary-General, as well as in resolutions 54/225, 55/203, 55/2 and S-26/2 and the decisions of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development;[3]

5. *Invites* the organizations of the United Nations system as well as Member States to increase financial and other assistance to the countries of the Caribbean Community to help those countries implement the priorities of the Caribbean Regional Strategic Framework, which sets out realistic targets for reducing the rate of new infections, raising the quality and coverage of care, treatment and support and building institutional capacity, and cope with the problems and the burden caused by the HIV/AIDS pandemic;

6. *Invites* the Secretary-General to consider utilizing a strategic programming framework modality to strengthen the coordination and cooperation between the two Secretariats as well as between the United Nations field offices and the Caribbean Community;

7. *Calls upon* the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to assist the countries of the Caribbean in addressing the social and economic consequences of the vulnerability of Caribbean economies and the challenges that this poses for achieving the Millennium Development Goals and the goal of sustainable development;

8. *Reaffirms* the objective of strengthening the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[6] including through the mobilization of financial and technological resources, as well as capacity-building programmes;

9. *Welcomes* the initiatives of Member States in assisting in the cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community, and encourages their continuing efforts;

10. *Recommends* that the fourth general meeting between representatives of the Caribbean Community and its associated institutions and of the United Nations system be held in the Caribbean in early 2007 in order to review and appraise progress in the implementation of the agreed areas and issues and to hold consultations on such additional measures and procedures as may be required to facilitate and strengthen cooperation between the two organizations;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community".

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[6] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

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Sixty-first session
Agenda item 108 (e)
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago: draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Chile, Comoros, Cuba, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Honduras, Liberia, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Thailand, Tuvalu, Zambia and Zimbabwe

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Sixty-first session
Agenda item 71 (a)
Oceans and the law of the sea

Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Cape Verde, Cyprus, Finland, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Jamaica, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Namibia, New Zealand, Norway, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Tonga and United States of America: draft resolution

Oceans and the law of the sea

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/28 of 6 December 1994, 52/26 of 26 November 1997, 54/33 of 24 November 1999, 57/141 of 12 December 2002, 58/240 of 23 December 2003, 59/24 of 17 November 2004, 60/30 of 29 November 2005 and other relevant resolutions concerning the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea ("the Convention"),[1]

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[2] the addendum thereto,[3] the report of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction[4] and also the reports on the work of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea ("the Consultative Process") at its seventh meeting[5] and on the sixteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention,[6]

Emphasizing the pre-eminent contribution provided by the Convention to the strengthening of peace, security, cooperation and friendly relations among all nations in conformity with the principles of justice and equal rights and to the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples of the world, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, as well as for the sustainable development of the oceans and seas,

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.
[2] A/61/63.
[3] A/61/63/Add.1.
[4] A/61/65.
[5] A/61/156.
[6] SPLOS/148.

06-62850 (E) 291106

Emphasizing also the universal and unified character of the Convention, and reaffirming that the Convention sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out and is of strategic importance as the basis for national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector, and that its integrity needs to be maintained, as recognized also by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[7]

Recognizing the important contribution of sustainable development and management of the resources and uses of the oceans and seas to the achievement of international development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[8]

Conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach, and reaffirming the need to improve cooperation and coordination at the national, regional and global levels, in accordance with the Convention, to support and supplement the efforts of each State in promoting the implementation and observance of the Convention, and the integrated management and sustainable development of the oceans and seas,

Reiterating the essential need for cooperation, including through capacity-building and transfer of marine technology, to ensure that all States, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, are able both to implement the Convention and to benefit from the sustainable development of the oceans and seas, as well as to participate fully in global and regional forums and processes dealing with oceans and law of the sea issues,

Emphasizing the need to strengthen the ability of competent international organizations to contribute, at the global, regional, subregional and bilateral levels, through cooperation programmes with Governments, to the development of national capacity in marine science and the sustainable management of the oceans and their resources,

Recalling that marine science is important for eradicating poverty, contributing to food security, conserving the world's marine environment and resources, helping to understand, predict and respond to natural events and promoting the sustainable development of the oceans and seas, by improving knowledge, through sustained research efforts and the evaluation of monitoring results, and applying such knowledge to management and decision-making,

Recalling also its decision, in resolutions 57/141 and 58/240, to establish a regular process under the United Nations for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects, both current and foreseeable, building on existing regional assessments, as recommended by the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[9] and noting the need for cooperation among all States to this end,

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[7] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[8] See resolution 55/2.

[9] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex, para. 36 (b).

Reiterating its concern at the adverse impacts on the marine environment and biodiversity, in particular on vulnerable marine ecosystems, including corals, of human activities, such as overutilization of living marine resources, the use of destructive practices, physical impacts by ships, the introduction of alien invasive species and marine pollution from all sources, including from land-based sources and vessels, in particular through the illegal discharge of oil and other harmful substances, the loss or release of fishing gear and the dumping of hazardous waste such as radioactive materials, nuclear waste and dangerous chemicals,

Expressing its concern over the projected adverse effects of anthropogenic and natural climate change and ocean acidification on the marine environment and marine biodiversity,

Recognizing that there is a need for a more integrated approach and to further study and promote measures for enhanced cooperation and coordination relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction,

Recognizing also that the realization of the benefits of the Convention could be enhanced by international cooperation, technical assistance and advanced scientific knowledge, as well as by funding and capacity-building,

Recognizing further that hydrographic surveys and nautical charting are critical to the safety of navigation and life at sea, environmental protection, including the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems, and the economics of the global shipping industry, and recognizing in this regard that the move towards electronic charting not only provides significantly increased benefits for safe navigation and management of ship movement, but also provides data and information that can be used for sustainable fisheries activities and other sectoral uses of the marine environment, the delimitation of maritime boundaries and environmental protection,

Noting with concern the continuing problem of transnational organized crime and threats to maritime safety and security, including piracy, armed robbery at sea, smuggling and terrorist acts against shipping, offshore installations and other maritime interests, and noting the deplorable loss of life and adverse impact on international trade, energy security and the global economy resulting from such activities,

Reaffirming the importance of the work of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf ("the Commission") for coastal States and the international community as a whole,

Noting the important role of the Commission in assisting States parties in the implementation of Part VI of the Convention, through the examination of information submitted by coastal States regarding the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles,

Recognizing the importance and the contribution of the work over the past seven years of the Consultative Process established by resolution 54/33 to facilitate the annual review of developments in ocean affairs by the General Assembly and extended by resolutions 57/141 and 60/30,

Noting the responsibilities of the Secretary-General under the Convention and related resolutions of the General Assembly, in particular resolutions 49/28, 52/26 and 54/33, and in this context the increase in activities of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat ("the

Division"), in particular in view of the growing number of requests to the Division for additional outputs and servicing of meetings, the increasing capacity-building activities and assistance to the Commission, and the role of the Division in inter-agency coordination and cooperation,

Emphasizing that underwater archaeological, cultural and historical heritage, including shipwrecks and watercrafts, holds essential information on the history of humankind and that such heritage is a resource that needs to be protected and preserved,

Reaffirming the importance of the work of the International Seabed Authority ("the Authority") in accordance with the Convention and the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 ("the Agreement"),[10]

I. Implementation of the Convention and related agreements and instruments

1. *Reaffirms* its resolutions 49/28, 52/26, 54/33, 57/141, 58/240, 59/24, 60/30 and other relevant resolutions concerning the Convention;[1]

2. *Also reaffirms* the unified character of the Convention and the vital importance of preserving its integrity;

3. *Calls upon* all States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Convention and the Agreement;[10]

4. *Calls upon* all States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks ("the Fish Stocks Agreement");[11]

5. *Calls upon* States to harmonize, as a matter of priority, their national legislation with the provisions of the Convention and, where applicable, relevant agreements and instruments, to ensure the consistent application of those provisions and to ensure also that any declarations or statements that they have made or make when signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention do not purport to exclude or to modify the legal effect of the provisions of the Convention in their application to the State concerned and to withdraw any such declarations or statements;

6. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to deposit with the Secretary-General charts or lists of geographical coordinates, as provided for in the Convention;

7. *Urges* all States to cooperate, directly or through competent international bodies, in taking measures to protect and preserve objects of an archaeological and historical nature found at sea, in conformity with the Convention, and calls upon States to work together on such diverse challenges and opportunities as the appropriate relationship between salvage law and scientific management and conservation of underwater cultural heritage, increasing technological abilities to discover and reach underwater sites, looting and growing underwater tourism;

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[10] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1836, No. 31364.

[11] Ibid., vol. 2167, No. 37924.

8. *Notes* the effort made by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization with respect to the preservation of underwater cultural heritage, and notes in particular the rules annexed to the 2001 Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage[12] that address the relationship between salvage law and scientific principles of management, conservation and protection of underwater cultural heritage among parties, their nationals and vessels flying their flag;

II. Capacity-building

9. *Calls upon* donor agencies and international financial institutions to keep their programmes systematically under review to ensure the availability in all States, particularly in developing States, of the economic, legal, navigational, scientific and technical skills necessary for the full implementation of the Convention and the objectives of the present resolution, as well as the sustainable development of the oceans and seas nationally, regionally and globally, and in so doing to bear in mind the interests and needs of landlocked developing States;

10. *Encourages* intensified efforts to build capacity for developing countries, in particular for the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, to improve hydrographic services and the production of nautical charts, including electronic charts, as well as the mobilization of resources and building of capacity with support from international financial institutions and the donor community;

11. *Calls upon* States and international financial institutions, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes and technical partnerships, to continue to strengthen capacity-building activities, in particular in developing countries, in the field of marine scientific research by, inter alia, training personnel to develop and enhance relevant expertise, providing the necessary equipment, facilities and vessels and transferring environmentally sound technologies;

12. *Recognizes* the need to build the capacity of developing States to raise awareness of, and support implementation of, improved waste management practices, noting the particular vulnerability of small island developing States to the impact of marine pollution from land-based sources and marine debris;

13. *Also recognizes* the importance of assisting developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, in implementing the Convention, and urges States, intergovernmental organizations and agencies, national institutions, non-governmental organizations and international financial institutions, as well as natural and juridical persons, to make voluntary financial or other contributions to the trust funds, as referred to in resolution 57/141, established for this purpose;

14. *Encourages* States to use the Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, adopted by the Assembly of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and

[12] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October-3 November 2001*, vol. 1 and corrigendum: *Resolutions*, resolution 24, annex.

Cultural Organization,[13] and recalls the important role of the secretariat of the International Oceanographic Commission in the implementation and promotion of those Criteria and Guidelines;

15. *Also encourages* States to assist developing States, and especially the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, at the bilateral level and, where appropriate, multilateral level, in the preparation of submissions to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf regarding the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, including the assessment of the nature and extent of the continental shelf of a coastal State through a desktop study, and the delineation of the outer limits of its continental shelf;

16. *Notes with appreciation* the successful conduct by the Division of regional training courses, most recently held in Accra from 5 to 9 December 2005 and in Buenos Aires from 8 to 12 May 2006, the purpose of which was to train technical staff of coastal developing States in the delineation of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and in the preparation of submissions to the Commission, and requests the Secretary-General, in cooperation with States and relevant international organizations and institutions, to continue making such training courses available;

17. *Also notes with appreciation* the first regional workshop of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea ("the Tribunal"), held in Dakar from 31 October to 2 November 2006 on the role of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea in the settlement of disputes relating to the law of the sea in West Africa;

18. *Invites* Member States and others in a position to do so to support the capacity-building activities of the Division, including, in particular, the training activities to assist developing States in the preparation of their submissions to the Commission, and invites Member States and others in a position to do so to contribute to the trust fund established by the Secretary-General for the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat to support the promotion of international law;

19. *Recognizes* the importance of the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, advises the Secretary-General to continue to finance the Fellowship from resources made available through an appropriate Office of Legal Affairs trust fund, and urges Member States and others in a position to do so to contribute to the further development of the Fellowship;

20. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the ongoing implementation of the United Nations and the Nippon Foundation Fellowship Programme, focusing on human resources development for developing coastal States parties and non-parties to the Convention in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea or related disciplines;

III. Meeting of States Parties

21. *Welcomes* the report of the sixteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention;[6]

[13] See Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, document IOC/INF-1203.

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene the seventeenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention in New York on 14 and from 18 to 22 June 2007, bearing in mind that the current term of office of the members of the Commission expires on 15 June 2007, and to provide the services required;

23. *Calls upon* States Parties to transmit to the Secretariat the credentials of representatives attending the Meeting as far in advance as is practicable, and no later than 13 June 2007;

IV. Peaceful settlement of disputes

24. *Notes with satisfaction* the continued and significant contribution of the Tribunal to the settlement of disputes by peaceful means in accordance with Part XV of the Convention, and underlines the important role and authority of the Tribunal concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention and the Agreement;

25. *Equally pays tribute* to the important and long-standing role of the International Court of Justice with regard to the peaceful settlement of disputes concerning the law of the sea;

26. *Notes* that States parties to an international agreement related to the purposes of the Convention may submit to, inter alia, the Tribunal or the International Court of Justice any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of that agreement submitted in accordance with that agreement, and notes also the possibility, provided for in the statutes of the Tribunal and the Court, to submit disputes to a chamber;

27. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to consider making a written declaration choosing from the means set out in article 287 of the Convention for the settlement of disputes concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention and the Agreement, bearing in mind the comprehensive character of the dispute settlement mechanism provided for in Part XV of the Convention;

V. The Area

28. *Notes* the progress of the discussions on issues relating to the regulations for prospecting and exploration for polymetallic sulphides and cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts in the Area, and reiterates the importance of the ongoing elaboration by the Authority, pursuant to article 145 of the Convention, of rules, regulations and procedures to ensure the effective protection of the marine environment, the protection and conservation of the natural resources of the Area and the prevention of damage to its flora and fauna from harmful effects that may arise from activities in the Area;

29. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the contract signed on 19 July 2006 between Germany and the Authority regarding the exploration of polymetallic nodules in an area in the Pacific Ocean;

30. *Notes* the importance of the responsibilities entrusted to the Authority by articles 143 and 145 of the Convention, which refer to marine scientific research and protection of the marine environment respectively;

VI. Effective functioning of the Authority and the Tribunal

31. *Appeals* to all States parties to the Convention to pay their assessed contributions to the Authority and to the Tribunal in full and on time, and also appeals to States parties in arrears with their contributions to fulfil their obligations without delay;

32. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to attend the sessions of the Authority, and calls upon the Authority to continue to pursue all options, including the issue of dates, in order to improve attendance in Kingston and to ensure global participation;

33. *Calls upon* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the Tribunal[14] and to the Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the Authority;[15]

34. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Tribunal's Rules and Staff Regulations promoting the recruitment of a geographically representative staff in the Professional and higher categories, and calls for wider dissemination of vacancy announcements to achieve that goal;

VII. The continental shelf and the work of the Commission

35. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention that are in a position to do so to make every effort to submit information to the Commission regarding the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, in conformity with article 76 of the Convention and article 4 of annex II to the Convention, taking into account the decision of the eleventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention;[16]

36. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress in the work of the Commission,[17] that it is giving current consideration to five submissions that have been made regarding the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and that a number of States have advised of their intention to make submissions in the near future;

37. *Notes* that the anticipated heavy workload of the Commission, owing to an increasing number of submissions, places additional demands on its members and the Division, and in that regard emphasizes the need to ensure that the Commission can perform its functions effectively and maintain its high level of quality and expertise;

38. *Emphasizes* the need to maintain, to the extent possible given the term of office of the members of the Commission, continuity in the composition of subcommissions throughout the consideration of a submission;

39. *Takes note* of the decision of the sixteenth Meeting of States Parties[18] to the Convention to address, as a matter of priority, issues related to the workload of the Commission and funding for its members attending the sessions of the Commission and the meetings of the subcommissions;

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[14] SPLOS/25.
[15] ISBA/4/A/8, annex.
[16] SPLOS/72.
[17] CLCS/50 and CLCS/52.
[18] SPLOS/144.

40. *Calls upon* States whose experts are serving on the Commission to do their utmost to ensure the full participation of those experts in the work of the Commission, including the meetings of subcommissions, in accordance with the Convention;

41. *Endorses* the call by the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention to strengthen the Division, serving as the secretariat of the Commission, for the purpose of enhancing its technical support for the Commission;

42. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to take all necessary actions to ensure that the Commission can fulfil the functions entrusted to it under the Convention;

43. *Encourages* States to make additional contributions to the voluntary trust fund established by resolution 55/7 of 30 October 2000, for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission for developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and compliance with article 76 of the Convention;

44. *Expresses its concern* regarding the resources available in the voluntary trust fund established by resolution 55/7 for the purpose of defraying the cost of participation of the members of the Commission from developing States in the meetings of the Commission, and urges States to make additional contributions to the trust fund;

45. *Approves* the convening by the Secretary-General of the nineteenth and twentieth sessions of the Commission in New York from 5 March to 13 April 2007 and from 20 August to 7 September 2007, respectively, on the understanding that the following periods will be used for the technical examination of submissions at the Geographic Information System laboratories and other technical facilities of the Division: 5 to 23 March, 9 to 13 April, 20 to 24 August and 4 to 7 September 2007;

46. *Expresses its firm conviction* about the importance of the work of the Commission, carried out in accordance with the Convention, including with respect to the participation of the coastal State in relevant proceedings concerning its submission;

47. *Notes with satisfaction* the amendments to rule 52 and annex III to the rules of procedure of the Commission,[19] and recognizes the continued need for active interaction between submitting States and the Commission;

48. *Encourages* States to continue exchanging views in order to increase understanding of issues, including expenditures involved, arising from the application of article 76 of the Convention, thus facilitating preparation of submissions by States, in particular developing States, to the Commission;

49. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Member States, to continue supporting and organizing workshops or symposiums on scientific and technical aspects of the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, taking into account the deadline for submissions, and welcomes initiatives of States in coordination with the United Nations, such as the International Symposium held in Tokyo on 6 and 7 March 2006;

[19] CLCS/50, paras. 36 and 43.

VIII. Maritime safety and security and flag State implementation

50. *Encourages* States to ratify or accede to international agreements addressing the safety and security of navigation and to adopt the necessary measures consistent with the Convention, aimed at implementing and enforcing the rules contained in those agreements;

51. *Welcomes* the adoption of the consolidated Maritime Labour Convention by the International Labour Conference on 23 February 2006, and encourages States to become parties to that Convention;

52. *Also welcomes* the adoption and continuing review by the International Maritime Organization and the International Labour Organization of Guidelines on Fair Treatment of Seafarers in the Event of a Maritime Accident,[20] and encourages States to implement the Guidelines;

53. *Calls upon* States to consider becoming members of the International Hydrographic Organization, and urges all States to work with that Organization to increase the coverage of hydrographic information on a global basis to enhance capacity-building and technical assistance and to promote safe navigation, especially in areas used for international navigation, ports and where there are vulnerable or protected marine areas;

54. *Encourages* States to draw up plans and to establish procedures to implement the Guidelines on Places of Refuge for Ships in Need of Assistance;[21]

55. *Notes* the progress in the implementation of the Action Plan for the Safety of Transport of Radioactive Material, approved by the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency in March 2004,[22] and encourages States concerned to continue their efforts in the implementation of all areas of the Action Plan;

56. *Also notes* that cessation of the transport of radioactive materials through the regions of small island developing States is an ultimate desired goal of small island developing States and some other countries, and recognizes the right of freedom of navigation in accordance with international law; that States should maintain dialogue and consultation, in particular under the aegis of the International Atomic Energy Agency and the International Maritime Organization, with the aim of improved mutual understanding, confidence-building and enhanced communication in relation to the safe maritime transport of radioactive materials; that States involved in the transport of such materials are urged to continue to engage in dialogue with small island developing States and other States to address their concerns; and that these concerns include the further development and strengthening, within the appropriate forums, of international regulatory regimes to enhance safety, disclosure, liability, security and compensation in relation to such transport;[23]

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[20] Adopted by the International Maritime Organization Legal Committee on 27 April 2006 as resolution LEG.3(91), and by the International Labour Organization Governing Body on 12 June 2006 at its 296th session.

[21] International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolution A.949(23).

[22] Available at www-ns.iaea.org.

[23] Resolution 60/1, para. 56 (o).

57. *Encourages* States to cooperate to address threats to maritime safety and security, including piracy, armed robbery at sea, smuggling and terrorist acts against shipping, offshore installations and other maritime interests, through bilateral and multilateral instruments and mechanisms aimed at monitoring, preventing and responding to such threats;

58. *Urges* all States, in cooperation with the International Maritime Organization, to combat piracy and armed robbery at sea by adopting measures, including those relating to assistance with capacity-building through training of seafarers, port staff and enforcement personnel in the prevention, reporting and investigation of incidents, bringing the alleged perpetrators to justice, in accordance with international law, and by adopting national legislation, as well as providing enforcement vessels and equipment and guarding against fraudulent ship registration;

59. *Calls upon* States to become parties to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation and the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf,[24] invites States to consider becoming parties to the 2005 Protocols amending those instruments,[25] and also urges States parties to take appropriate measures to ensure the effective implementation of those instruments, through the adoption of legislation, where appropriate;

60. *Also calls upon* States to effectively implement the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code and related amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea,[26] and to work with the International Maritime Organization to promote safe and secure shipping while ensuring freedom of navigation;

61. *Takes note* of the adoption by the International Maritime Organization of amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea[27] introducing the long-range identification and tracking of ships system;

62. *Notes* the work of the International Maritime Organization with regard to the preparation of the wreck removal convention for the prompt and effective removal of wrecks which may pose a hazard to navigation or the marine environment;

63. *Requests* States to take appropriate measures with regard to ships flying their flag or of their registry to address hazards that may be caused by wrecks and drifting or sunken cargo to navigation or the marine environment;

64. *Urges* all States, in cooperation with the International Maritime Organization, to improve the protection of offshore installations by adopting measures related to the prevention, reporting and investigation of acts of violence against installations, in accordance with international law, and by implementing such measures through national legislation to ensure proper and adequate enforcement;

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[24] International Maritime Organization publication, Sales No. 462.88.12.E.

[25] International Maritime Organization, documents LEG/CONF.15/21 and LEG/CONF.15/22.

[26] Ibid., documents SOLAS/CONF.5/32 and 34.

[27] Resolution MSC.202(81) in document MSC 81/25/Add.1, annex 2.

65. *Calls upon* States to ensure freedom of navigation and the rights of transit passage and innocent passage in accordance with international law, in particular the Convention;

66. *Welcomes* the work of the International Maritime Organization relating to the protection of shipping lanes of strategic importance and significance, and in particular in enhancing safety, security and environmental protection in straits used for international navigation, and calls upon the International Maritime Organization, States bordering straits and user States to continue their cooperation efforts to keep such straits safe and open to international navigation at all times, consistent with international law, in particular the Convention;

67. *Calls upon* user States and States bordering straits for international navigation to cooperate by agreement on matters relating to navigational safety, including safety aids for navigation, and the prevention, reduction and control of pollution from ships;

68. *Welcomes* the progress in regional cooperation, including the Jakarta and Kuala Lumpur Statements on Enhancement of Safety, Security and Environmental Protection in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore, adopted on 8 September 2005[28] and 20 September 2006,[29] respectively, the progress made in establishing a cooperative mechanism on safety of navigation and environmental protection to promote dialogue and facilitate close cooperation between the littoral States, user States, shipping industry and other stakeholders and in implementing the Marine Electronic Highway Demonstration Project in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore and the entry into force of the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia on 4 September 2006, by which the Information Sharing Centre was launched and established in Singapore in November 2006, and calls upon States to give immediate attention to adopting, concluding and implementing cooperation agreements at the regional level;

69. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[30] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[31] and to take appropriate measures to ensure their effective implementation;

70. *Also calls upon* States to ensure that masters on ships flying their flag take the steps required by relevant instruments[32] to provide assistance to persons in distress at sea, and urges States to cooperate and to take all necessary measures to ensure the effective implementation of the amendments to the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue[33] and to the International Convention

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[28] A/60/529, annex II.

[29] A/61/__ (see IMO/KUL 1/4).

[30] Resolution 55/25, annex III.

[31] Ibid., annex II.

[32] The International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979, as amended, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982, and the International Convention on Salvage, 1989.

[33] International Maritime Organization, document MSC/78/26/Add.1, annex 5, resolution MSC.155(78).

for the Safety of Life at Sea[34] relating to the delivery of persons rescued at sea to a place of safety, as well as of the associated Guidelines on the Treatment of Persons Rescued at Sea;[35]

71. *Urges* flag States without an effective maritime administration and appropriate legal frameworks to establish or enhance the necessary infrastructure, legislative and enforcement capabilities to ensure effective compliance with, and implementation and enforcement of, their responsibilities under international law and, until such action is taken, to consider declining the granting of the right to fly their flag to new vessels, suspending their registry or not opening a registry, and calls upon flag and port States to take all measures consistent with international law necessary to prevent the operation of substandard vessels;

72. *Welcomes* the adoption by the International Maritime Organization of the resolutions on the establishment of the Voluntary International Maritime Organization Member State Audit Scheme,[36] the Code for the implementation of mandatory International Maritime Organization instruments[37] and the future development of the Voluntary Scheme,[38] and encourages all flag States to volunteer to be audited;

73. *Takes note* of the report[39] of the Ad Hoc Consultative Meeting of senior representatives of international organizations on the "genuine link" held by the International Maritime Organization in July 2005 in response to the invitation extended to the International Maritime Organization and other relevant competent international organizations in General Assembly resolutions 58/240 and 58/14, to examine and clarify the role of the "genuine link" in relation to the duty of flag States to exercise effective control over ships flying their flag, including fishing vessels, and the potential consequences of non-compliance with duties and obligations of flag States described in relevant international instruments;

IX. Marine environment and marine resources

74. *Emphasizes once again* the importance of the implementation of Part XII of the Convention in order to protect and preserve the marine environment and its living marine resources against pollution and physical degradation, and calls upon all States to cooperate and take measures consistent with the Convention, directly or through competent international organizations, for the protection and preservation of the marine environment;

75. *Encourages* States to ratify or accede to international agreements addressing the protection and preservation of the marine environment and its living marine resources against the introduction of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens and marine pollution from all sources, and other forms of physical degradation, as well as agreements that provide for compensation for damage resulting from marine pollution, and to adopt the necessary measures consistent with the Convention aimed at implementing and enforcing the rules contained in those agreements;

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[34] Ibid., annex 3, resolution MSC.153(78).
[35] Ibid., annex 34, resolution MSC.167(78).
[36] Resolution A.974(24).
[37] Resolution A.973(24).
[38] Resolution A.975(24).
[39] A/61/160.

76. *Welcomes* the entry into force on 24 March 2006 of the 1996 Protocol to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972,[40] and on 14 June 2007 of the Protocol on Preparedness, Response and Cooperation to Pollution Incidents by Hazardous and Noxious Substances, 2000[41] and encourages States that have not done so to become parties to those Protocols;

77. *Encourages* States, in accordance with the Convention and other relevant instruments, either bilaterally or regionally, to jointly develop and promote contingency plans for responding to pollution incidents, as well as other incidents that are likely to have significant adverse effects on the marine environment and biodiversity;

78. *Welcomes* the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme relating to marine debris carried out in cooperation with relevant United Nations bodies and organizations, and encourages States to further develop partnerships with industry and civil society to raise awareness of the extent of the impact of marine debris on the health and productivity of the marine environment and consequent economic loss;

79. *Urges* States to integrate the issue of marine debris into national strategies dealing with waste management in the coastal zone, ports and maritime industries, including recycling, reuse, reduction and disposal, and to encourage the development of appropriate economic incentives to address this issue, including the development of cost recovery systems that provide an incentive to use port reception facilities and discourage ships from discharging marine debris at sea, and encourages States to cooperate regionally and subregionally to develop and implement joint prevention and recovery programmes for marine debris;

80. *Welcomes* the decision of the International Maritime Organization to review annex V to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto,[42] to assess its effectiveness in addressing sea-based sources of marine debris, and encourages all relevant organizations and bodies to assist in that process;

81. *Encourages* States that have not done so to become parties to the Protocol of 1997 (Annex VI-Regulations for the Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships) to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, and furthermore to ratify or accede to the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships, 2001[43] as well as the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004,[44] thereby facilitating their early entry into force;

82. *Notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization in accordance with its resolution on International Maritime Organization Policies and Practices related to the Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Ships[45] and

[40] IMO/LC.2/Circ.380.
[41] HNS-OPRC/CONF/11/Rev.1, attachment 1.
[42] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1340, No. 22484.
[43] International Maritime Organization, document AFS/CONF/26, annex.
[44] International Maritime Organization, document BWM/CONF/36, annex.
[45] Resolution A.963(23) of 5 December 2003.

the Work Plan to Identify and Develop the Mechanisms Needed to Achieve the Limitation or Reduction of CO_2 Emission from International Shipping agreed by the Marine Environment Protection Committee of the International Maritime Organization at its fifty-fifth session, in October 2006, and welcomes ongoing efforts of that Organization in that regard;

83. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the International Maritime Organization in developing and approving an action plan to address the inadequacy of port waste reception facilities, and urges States to cooperate in correcting the shortfall in such facilities in accordance with the action plan;

84. *Welcomes* the outcomes of the Second Intergovernmental Review Meeting of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, convened in Beijing from 16 to 20 October 2006, and calls upon States to take all appropriate measures to fulfil the commitments of the international community embodied in the Beijing Declaration on furthering the implementation of the Global Programme of Action;[46]

85. *Also welcomes* the continued work of States, the United Nations Environment Programme and regional organizations in the implementation of the Global Programme of Action, and encourages increased emphasis on the link between freshwater, the coastal zone and marine resources in the implementation of international development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[8] and of the time-bound targets in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[47] in particular the target on sanitation, and the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development;[48]

86. *Invites* States, in particular those States with advanced technology and marine capabilities, to explore prospects for improving cooperation with, and assistance to, developing States, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, with a view to better integrating into national policies and programmes, sustainable and effective development in the marine sector;

87. *Encourages* the competent international organizations, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and other funding agencies to consider expanding their programmes within their respective fields of competence for assistance to developing countries and coordinate their efforts, including, inter alia, in the allocation and application of Global Environment Facility funding;

88. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a study, in cooperation with and based on information provided by States and competent international organizations and global and regional funding agencies, on the assistance available to and measures that may be taken by developing States, in particular the least developed States and small island developing States, as well as coastal African

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[46] Available at http://www.cep.unep.org.

[47] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[48] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

States, to realize the benefits of sustainable and effective development of marine resources and uses of the oceans within the limits of national jurisdiction, and further requests the Secretary-General to present the study to the Assembly at its sixty-third session and to report to the Assembly at its sixty-second session on the progress in the preparation of the study;

X. Marine biodiversity

89. *Reaffirms* its role relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction, notes the work of States and relevant complementary intergovernmental organizations and bodies on those issues, including the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and invites them to contribute to its consideration of these issues within the areas of their respective competence;

90. *Welcomes* the meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group, established by paragraph 73 of resolution 59/24 to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction, held in New York from 13 to 17 February 2006, and takes note of the possible options, approaches and timely follow-up process discussed by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group;[4]

91. *Takes note* of the report of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction,[4] and requests the Secretary-General to convene, in accordance with paragraph 73 of resolution 59/24, and with full conference services, a meeting of the Working Group in 2008, to consider:

(a) The environmental impacts of anthropogenic activities on marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction;

(b) Coordination and cooperation among States as well as relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies for the conservation and management of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction;

(c) The role of area-based management tools;

(d) Genetic resources beyond areas of national jurisdiction;

(e) Whether there is a governance or regulatory gap, and if so, how it should be addressed;

92. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the issues referred to in paragraph 91 above in the context of his report on oceans and the law of the sea to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session, in order to assist the Working Group in preparing its agenda, in consultation with all relevant international bodies, and to arrange for support for the performance of its work to be provided by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea;

93. *Encourages* States to include relevant experts in their delegations attending the meeting of the Working Group;

94. *Recognizes* the importance of making the outcomes of the Working Group widely available;

95. *Notes* the work under the Jakarta Mandate on Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity[49] and the Convention on Biological Diversity elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity,[50] as well as the relevant decisions adopted at the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Curitiba, Brazil, from 20 to 31 March 2006;

96. *Reaffirms* the need for States and competent international organizations to urgently consider ways to integrate and improve, based on the best available scientific information and in accordance with the Convention and related agreements and instruments, the management of risks to the marine biodiversity of seamounts, cold water corals, hydrothermal vents and certain other underwater features;

97. *Also reaffirms* the need for States to continue their efforts to develop and facilitate the use of diverse approaches and tools for conserving and managing vulnerable marine ecosystems, including the possible establishment of marine protected areas, consistent with international law and based on the best scientific information available, and the development of representative networks of any such marine protected areas by 2012;

98. *Notes* the work of States, relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies, including the Convention on Biological Diversity, in the assessment of scientific information on, and compilation of ecological criteria for the identification of, marine areas that require protection, in light of the objective of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to develop and facilitate the use of diverse approaches and tools such as the establishment of marine protected areas consistent with international law and based on scientific information, including representative networks by 2012;

99. *Also notes* the report of the Scientific Experts' Workshop on Criteria for Identifying Ecologically or Biologically Significant Areas beyond National Jurisdiction, held in Ottawa from 6 to 8 December 2005,[51] and encourages experts to participate in follow-up workshops;

100. *Further notes* the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Synthesis reports and the urgent need to protect the marine biodiversity expressed therein;

101. *Calls upon* States and international organizations to urgently take action to address, in accordance with international law, destructive practices that have adverse impacts on marine biodiversity and ecosystems, including seamounts, hydrothermal vents and cold water corals;

102. *Reiterates its support* for the International Coral Reef Initiative, takes note of the International Coral Reef Initiative General Meetings, held in Koror from 31 October to 2 November 2005, and in Cozumel, Mexico, on 22 and 23 October 2006, supports the work under the Jakarta Mandate on Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity and the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity related to coral reefs, and notes the progress that the International Coral Reef Initiative and other relevant bodies have made to

[49] See A/51/312, annex II, decision II/10.

[50] UNEP/CBD/COP/7/21, annex, decision VII/5, annex I.

[51] A/AC.259/16.

incorporate cold water coral ecosystems into their programmes and activities and to promote the conservation and sustainable use of all coral reef resources;

103. *Expresses its concern* that coral bleaching has become more frequent and severe throughout tropical seas over the last two decades, and highlights the need for improved monitoring to predict and identify bleaching events to support and strengthen action during such events and improve strategies to support the natural resilience of reefs;

104. *Welcomes* the publication of *The Status of Coral Reefs in Tsunami Affected Countries: 2005* published by the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network;

105. *Encourages* States to cooperate, directly or through competent international bodies, in exchanging information in the event of accidents involving vessels on coral reefs and in promoting the development of economic assessment techniques for both restoration and non-use values of coral reef systems;

106. *Emphasizes* the need to mainstream sustainable coral reef management and integrated watershed management into national development strategies, as well as into the activities of relevant United Nations agencies and programmes, international financial institutions and the donor community;

107. *Encourages* further studies and consideration of the impacts of ocean noise on marine living resources, and requests the Division to compile the peer-reviewed scientific studies it receives from Member States and make them available on its website;

XI. Marine science

108. *Calls upon* States, individually or in collaboration with each other or with relevant international organizations and bodies, to improve understanding and knowledge of the oceans and the deep sea, including, in particular, the extent and vulnerability of deep sea biodiversity and ecosystems, by increasing their marine scientific research activities in accordance with the Convention;

109. *Notes* the contribution of the Census of Marine Life to marine biodiversity research, and encourages participation in the initiative;

110. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the Advisory Body of Experts on the Law of the Sea of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission on the development of procedures for the implementation of Parts XIII and XIV of the Convention and on the development of a consensual text on the legal framework for the collection of oceanographic data within the context of the Convention;

111. *Stresses* the importance of increasing the scientific understanding of the oceans/atmosphere interface, including through participation in ocean observing programmes and geographic information systems, such as the Global Ocean Observation System, a programme of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, particularly considering their role in monitoring climate variability and in the establishment of tsunami warning systems;

112. *Recognizes* the significant progress made by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and Member States towards the establishment of regional tsunami warning and mitigation systems, welcomes the continued collaboration of the World Meteorological Organization and other United Nations

and intergovernmental organizations in this effort, and encourages Member States to establish and sustain their national warning and mitigation systems, within a global, ocean-related multi-hazard approach, as necessary, to reduce loss of life and damage to national economies and strengthen the resilience of coastal communities to natural disasters;

XII. Regular process for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects

113. *Recalls* that the Ad Hoc Steering Group was established by resolution 60/30;

114. *Takes note* of the report of the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Steering Group for the "assessment of assessments" launched as a preparatory stage towards the establishment of the regular process for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects, held in New York from 7 to 9 June 2006,[52] and urges Member States from the African and Asian regional groups to propose the remaining representatives to the Chairmen of their regional groups so that the appointment to the Ad Hoc Steering Group of those representatives can be made by the President of the General Assembly without further delay;

115. *Urges* the Ad Hoc Steering Group to complete the "assessment of assessments" within two years, as provided for in resolution 60/30;

116. *Welcomes* with appreciation the support of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission for the "assessment of assessments" in providing secretariat services to the Ad Hoc Steering Group and establishing the group of experts, as approved by the Ad Hoc Steering Group;

117. *Invites* Member States, the Global Environment Facility and other interested parties to contribute financially to the "assessment of assessments", taking into account the workplan and budget approved by the Ad Hoc Steering Group, in order to complete the "assessment of assessments" within the specified period;

XIII. Regional cooperation

118. *Notes* that there have been a number of initiatives at the regional level, in various regions, to further the implementation of the Convention, takes note in that context of the Caribbean-focused Assistance Fund, which is intended to facilitate, mainly through technical assistance, the voluntary undertaking of maritime delimitation negotiations between Caribbean States, takes note once again of the Fund for Peace: Peaceful Settlement of Territorial Disputes, established by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States in 2000 as a primary mechanism, given its broader regional scope, for the prevention and resolution of pending territorial, land border and maritime boundary disputes, and calls upon States and others in a position to do so to contribute to these funds;

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[52] A/61/GRAME/AHSG/1.

XIV. Open-ended informal consultative process on oceans and the law of the sea

119. *Welcomes* the report on the work of the Consultative Process at its seventh meeting and invites States to consider the agreed consensual elements relating to ecosystem approaches and oceans as suggested by the Consultative Process as set out in Part A of the report,[5] in particular the proposed elements of an ecosystem approach, means to achieve implementation of an ecosystem approach and requirements for improved application of an ecosystem approach and also:

(a) Notes that continued environmental degradation in many parts of the world and increasing competing demands require an urgent response and the setting of priorities for management interventions aimed at conserving ecosystem integrity;

(b) Notes that ecosystem approaches to ocean management should be focused on managing human activities in order to maintain and, where needed, restore ecosystem health to sustain goods and environmental services, provide social and economic benefits for food security, sustain livelihoods in support of international development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and conserve marine biodiversity;

(c) Recalls that States should be guided in the application of ecosystem approaches by a number of existing instruments, in particular the Convention, which sets out the legal framework for all activities in the oceans and seas, and its implementing Agreements, as well as other commitments, such as those contained in the Convention on Biological Diversity and the World Summit on Sustainable Development call for the application of an ecosystem approach by 2010;

(d) Encourages States to cooperate and coordinate their efforts and take, individually or jointly, as appropriate, all measures, in conformity with international law, including the Convention and other applicable instruments, to address impacts on marine ecosystems in areas within and beyond national jurisdiction, taking into account the integrity of the ecosystems concerned;

120. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene the eighth meeting of the Consultative Process, in New York, from 25 to 29 June 2007, to provide it with the necessary facilities for the performance of its work and to arrange for support to be provided by the Division, in cooperation with other relevant parts of the Secretariat, as appropriate;

121. *Recalls* the need to strengthen and improve the efficiency of the Consultative Process, and encourages States, intergovernmental organizations and programmes to provide guidance to the co-chairpersons to this effect, particularly before and during the preparatory meeting for the Consultative Process;

122. *Expresses its concern* regarding the insufficient resources available in the voluntary trust fund established by resolution 55/7 for the purpose of assisting developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing States, in attending the meetings of the Consultative Process, by covering the costs of travel and daily subsistence allowance, and urges States to make additional contributions to the trust fund;

123. *Decides* that, in its deliberations on the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea at its forthcoming meetings in 2007 and 2008, the Consultative Process will focus its discussions on the topics "Marine genetic resources" in 2007 and "Maritime security and safety" in 2008;

XV. Coordination and cooperation

124. *Encourages* States to work closely with and through international organizations, funds and programmes, as well as the specialized agencies of the United Nations system and relevant international conventions, to identify emerging areas of focus for improved coordination and cooperation and how best to address these issues;

125. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of heads of intergovernmental organizations, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations engaged in activities relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, as well as funding institutions, and underlines the importance of their constructive and timely input for the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea and of their participation in relevant meetings and processes;

126. *Welcomes* the work done by the secretariats of relevant United Nations specialized agencies, programmes, funds and bodies and the secretariats of related organizations and conventions to enhance inter-agency coordination and cooperation on ocean issues, including through UN-Oceans, the inter-agency coordination mechanism on ocean and coastal issues within the United Nations system;

127. *Encourages* continued updates to Member States by UN-Oceans regarding its priorities and initiatives, in particular with respect to the proposed participation in UN-Oceans;

XVI. Activities of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

128. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the annual comprehensive report on oceans and the law of the sea, prepared by the Division, as well as for the other activities of the Division, which reflect the high standard of assistance provided to Member States by the Division;

129. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to carry out the responsibilities and functions entrusted to him in the Convention and by the related resolutions of the General Assembly, including resolutions 49/28 and 52/26, and to ensure the allocation of appropriate resources to the Division for the performance of its activities under the approved budget for the Organization;

XVII. Sixty-second session of the General Assembly

130. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive report, in its current comprehensive format and in accordance with established practice, for the consideration of the General Assembly at its sixty-second session, on developments and issues relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, including the implementation of the present resolution, in accordance with resolutions 49/28, 52/26 and 54/33, and to make the report available at least six weeks in advance of the meeting of the Consultative Process;

131. *Emphasizes* the critical role of the annual comprehensive report of the Secretary-General, which integrates information on developments relating to the implementation of the Convention and the work of the Organization, its specialized agencies and other institutions in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea at the global and regional levels, and as a result constitutes the basis for the annual

consideration and review of developments relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea by the General Assembly as the global institution having the competence to undertake such a review;

132. *Notes* that the report referred to in paragraph 130 above will also be presented to States parties pursuant to article 319 of the Convention regarding issues of a general nature that have arisen with respect to the Convention;

133. *Also notes* the desire to further improve the efficiency of, and effective participation of delegations in, the informal consultations concerning the annual General Assembly resolution on oceans and the law of the sea and the resolution on sustainable fisheries, and decides to limit the period of the informal consultations on both resolutions to a maximum of four weeks in total and to ensure that the consultations are scheduled in such a way as to avoid overlap with the period during which the Sixth Committee is meeting and that the Division has sufficient time to produce the report referred to in paragraph 130 above;

134. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea".

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Sixty-first session
Agenda item 14
Question of Palestine

Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe and Palestine: draft resolution

Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 3236 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974, 3375 (XXX) and 3376 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, 31/20 of 24 November 1976 and all subsequent relevant resolutions, including those adopted by the General Assembly at its emergency special sessions and resolution 60/36 of 1 December 2005,

Recalling also its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[1]

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, as well as the existing agreements between the two sides and the need for full compliance with those agreements,

Recalling also the Quartet's road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[2]

Recalling further the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[3] and recalling also its resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004,

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/61/35).

[2] S/2003/529, annex.

[3] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1

06-62823 (E) 271106

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility towards the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly, and takes note of its annual report,[1] including the conclusions and valuable recommendations contained in chapter VII thereof;

2. *Requests* the Committee to continue to exert all efforts to promote the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, to support the Middle East peace process and to mobilize international support for and assistance to the Palestinian people, and authorizes the Committee to make such adjustments in its approved programme of work as it may consider appropriate and necessary in the light of developments and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session and thereafter;

3. *Also requests* the Committee to continue to keep under review the situation relating to the question of Palestine and to report and make suggestions to the General Assembly, the Security Council or the Secretary-General, as appropriate;

4. *Further requests* the Committee to continue to extend its cooperation and support to Palestinian and other civil society organizations in order to mobilize international solidarity and support for the Palestinian people, particularly during this critical period of humanitarian hardship and financial crisis, with the overall aim of promoting the achievement by the Palestinian people of its inalienable rights and for a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, and to continue to involve additional civil society organizations in its work;

5. *Requests* the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, established under General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and other United Nations bodies associated with the question of Palestine to continue to cooperate fully with the Committee and to make available to it, at its request, the relevant information and documentation which they have at their disposal;

6. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation to the Committee in the performance of its tasks;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to circulate the report of the Committee to all the competent bodies of the United Nations, and urges them to take the necessary action, as appropriate;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Committee with all the necessary facilities for the performance of its tasks.

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Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

Addendum

Add the following country to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Lao People's Democratic Republic

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Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[1]

Taking note in particular of the relevant information contained in chapter V.B of that report,

Recalling its resolution 32/40 B of 2 December 1977 and all subsequent relevant resolutions, including resolution 60/37 of 1 December 2005,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Secretary-General in compliance with its resolution 60/37;

2. *Considers* that the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat continues to make a useful and constructive contribution through assisting the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People in the implementation of its mandate;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Division with the necessary resources and to ensure that it continues to carry out its programme of work as detailed in the relevant earlier resolutions, in consultation with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and under its guidance, including, in particular, the organization of international meetings and conferences in various regions with the participation of all sectors of the international community, liaison and cooperation with civil society, the further

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/61/35).

06-62829 (E) 241106

development and expansion of the documents collection of the United Nations Information System on the Question of Palestine, the preparation and widest possible dissemination of publications and information materials on various aspects of the question of Palestine and the provision of the annual training programme for staff of the Palestinian Authority;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the continued cooperation of the Department of Public Information and other units of the Secretariat in enabling the Division to perform its tasks and in covering adequately the various aspects of the question of Palestine;

5. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation to the Division in the performance of its tasks;

6. *Requests* the Division, as part of the observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People on 29 November, to continue to organize, under the guidance of the Committee, an annual exhibit on Palestinian rights or a cultural event in cooperation with the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations, and encourages Member States to continue to give the widest support and publicity to the observance of the Day of Solidarity.